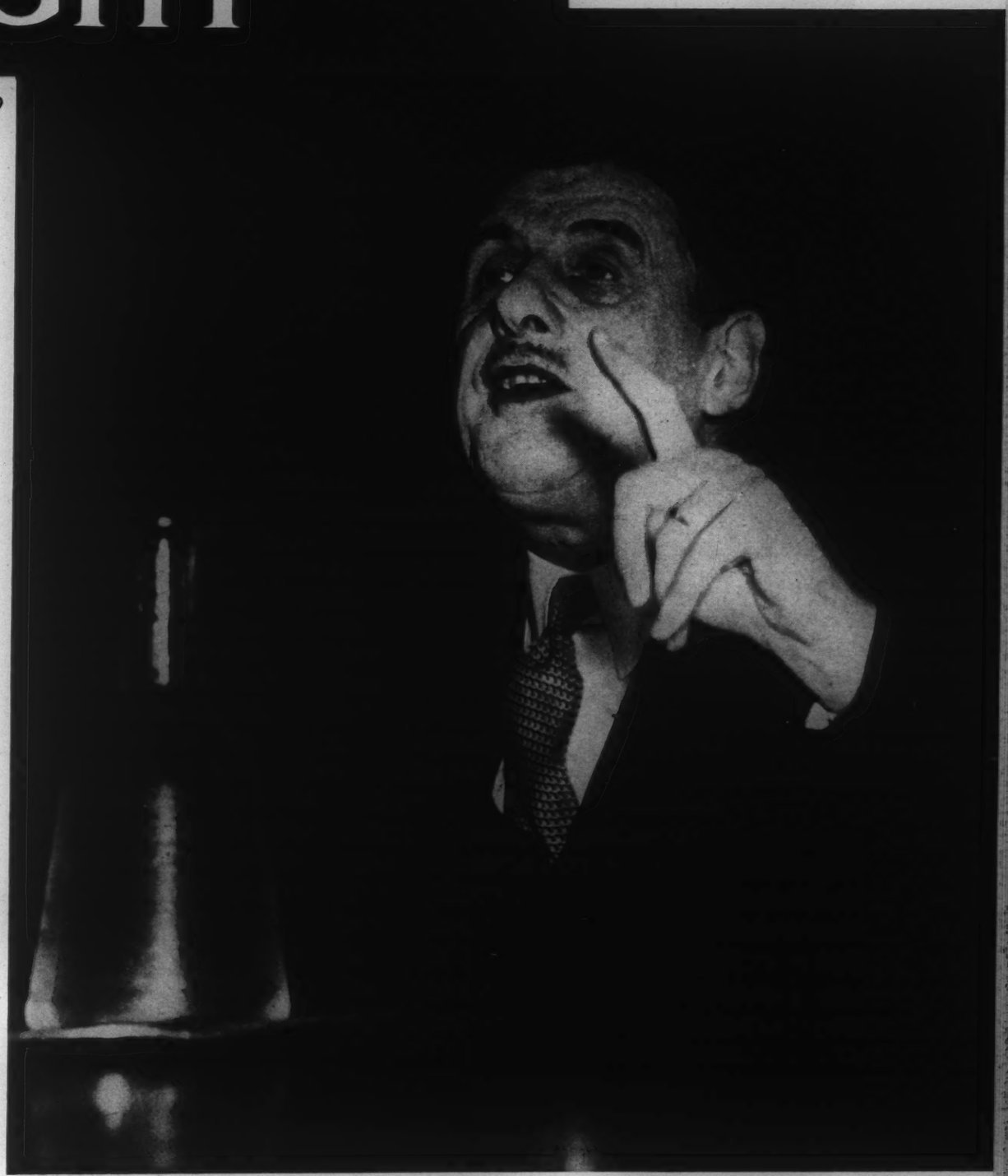
SATURDAY NIGHT

NOVEMBER 29, 1949



CAN FRANCE GOVERN HERSELF?

by I. C. de Buisseret

De Gaulle: Will a nation fall into his lap? See page

10¢

Water Under the Bridge Lamp • Melwyn Breen
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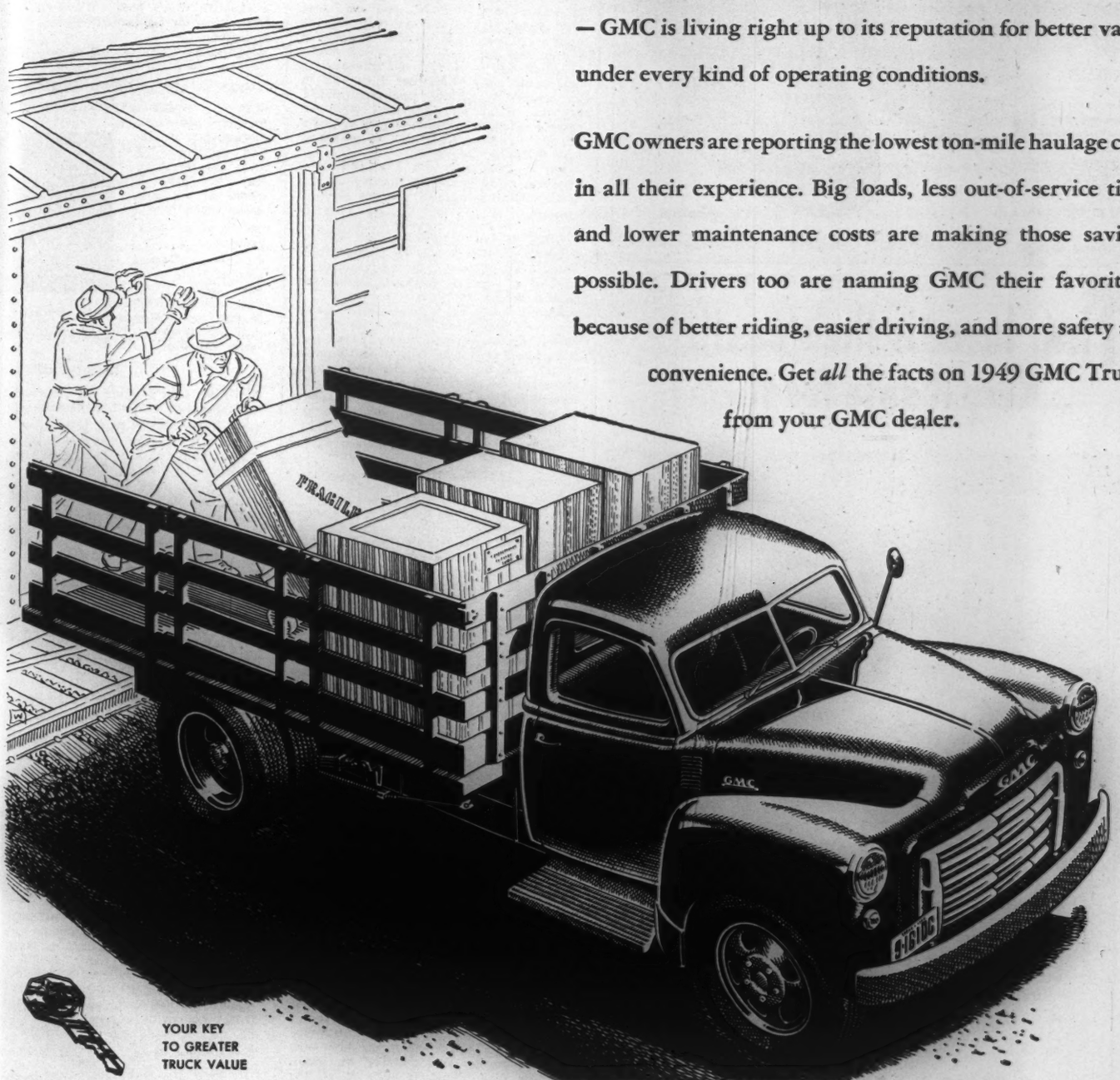

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letters

Silcox in for Bad Time

IT SEEMS to me that some statements in "Patriotism in for a Bad Time" (SN NOV. 8) calls for comment.

Mr. Silcox seems to feel nostalgic regret for the passing of patriotic fervor. I think that this diminishing of nationalism is indicative of an evolution of a spirit of internationalism, and therefore is encouraging and certainly not to be deplored.

The writer mentions several causes which he thinks underlie this present state of affairs. But he fails to mention, or perhaps fails to recognize that one cause very probably is that many people do realize that what we now need in this shrinking world is not nationalistic fervor but international cooperation and understanding.

Mr. Silcox dismisses the growth of internationalism with this statement: "There is little evidence of a great growth of international sentiment, and even that little seems to be achieved only at the expense of necessary patriotic fervor". It is true that internationalism is still stumbling and unsure of itself. Of course it is: how could it be otherwise? It is still in the process of evolution; one might almost say that it is still embryonic. And because it is so new it has nothing to guide its first fumbling steps and no well-trod path to follow.

But it does exist and I suspect is a very real cause behind the passing of Mr. Silcox's much lamented "patriotic fervor".

Toronto. HELEN J. TRACY

THERE IS an astonishing lack of intelligence in the remark by Claris Edwin Silcox that "there was an astonishing lack of real poetry produced during the Second World War."

Such a statement displays either ignorance of the poetry written by Edith Sitwell, Dylan Thomas, Sidney Keyes and Alan Lewis (to name only a few English poets), or an inability to understand, appreciate or even recognize poetry (indicated by the fact that Wilfred Owen is not mentioned among the poets of World War I).

Toronto. RONALD BATES

North-West Rebellion

YOUR REFERENCE in "Then and Now" (SN Nov. 8) to the death of John Campbell, veteran of the North-west Rebellion, was most interesting to one who has made some study of these events. It would seem, however, that there is some inaccuracy in the details of Campbell's service which you cite.

You state that his main engagement was "at Batoche Column, 1885". It is unusual to refer to an engagement as being "at a column" and one would conclude that Campbell was with the column under General Fred Middleton which marched upon Batoche and was involved with the Metis and Indians at Fish Creek and Batoche.

However, you also point out that Campbell was a member of the Queen's Own Rifles. But they were attached to the column under Col. Otter which marched from Swift Current to the relief of Battleford. Their main engagement was the ill-advised and unsuccessful attack upon Poundmaker's Indians at Cut Knife Hill.

Toronto. ALLAN R. TURNER

What Miss Canada Did Do

IN REGARD to your item "Unlucky Lady," (SN Nov. 1) outlining the various things that caused Miss Canada IV to fail in her attempt to set a new world speedboat record, I think, to make the article complete, you should have noted what she did do, in spite of all these difficulties: set an official North American record of 138.485 miles an hour, and travelled officially at 142.292 miles an hour—the fastest man has ever travelled on water. She did these things in spite of all the obstacles you outlined.

P. S. As you know, this is Miss Canada's home, and we're pretty proud of her, and her crew, Charlie Volker, Gord Paterson, Walt Harvey, and Harold Wilson, driver.

Ingersoll, Ont. THOMAS R. LEE

SAINT John

I MUST draw your attention to the fact that the largest city in New Brunswick is Saint John. It is not "St. John," as it appeared several times in SATURDAY NIGHT last week. The river is St., but the city Saint to distinguish it from all the other places with like names.

J. E. B.

■ *We take the first opportunity, in the letter below, to correct our spelling of Saint John.*

I AM WRITING to inform you that at the annual session of the Council of the Baptist Federation of Canada attention was called by some of its members to the article which appeared recently in your paper regarding the Baptists and it was voted that we express our hearty appreciation of the clear understanding and fine discrimination of your statement regarding a situation which does not always reflect fairly upon the Baptists represented in our Federation.

Saint John, N. B. WALDO C. MACHUM

Distant Worshipper

HAVING BEEN a "Lighter Side" fan for many years and consequently a distant worshipper of Mary Lowrey Ross, may we have a photo of her published soon?

H. W. S. SOULSBY
Victoria.

MARY LOWREY ROSS

■ *No request could give us more pleasure. Herewith the photo of Mrs. R., creator of "Miss A.," and* SATURDAY NIGHT*'s justly famous movie reviewer.*

Instead of "Life"

(*We print with pleasure the following letter passed on to us by a Canadian company.*)

FOR THE PAST two years you have kindly given me as a Christmas present a subscription to *Life*, which I have appreciated very much.

But I am more interested in Canadian affairs than American, and wonder, if you have similar plans for this year, if you would send me SATURDAY NIGHT instead. It costs less, and I think it is a magazine we can be proud of as Canadians. This also helps to keep our dollars at home.

Calgary, Alberta. E. C.

Snippets of Gossip

LIVELY without loss of dignity, informative without being dull, intelligent without being highbow, and with its whole appearance suggesting good taste, SATURDAY NIGHT was better than any weekly published at an equivalent price in this country or the U. S. A.

In its new form, snippets of gossip, already liberally provided by *Time* and *Newsweek*, are a poor substitute for the longer authoritative articles whose place they have usurped. The paper itself is almost impossible to read, with the text chopped into short paragraphs and buried among advertisements which distract attention from the reading matter, and the headlines, which used to be admirably clear and conspicuous, so poorly printed as to be difficult to decipher.

Unlike those correspondents who welcome the change as conforming to American fashion, we regret that an exceptionally good Canadian paper should make such a change at the cost of much of its best material and all its individuality. I am writing to tell my generous Canadian friend not to waste another subscription on me.

London, England. MARY FIELD

Wonderful!

Wonderful! At last a clean-cut, readable, comprehensive bird's-eye view of the Canadian scene. What a wonderful treat for the Canadian away from home. Long may you wave!

Fresno, Cal. G. DONALD HURLBURT

by and large

■ Chief Administrator J. L. Grey of the Canadian Atomic project told the Electrical Club of Montreal that the Canadian village with the highest birthrate is Deep River, Ont., where Canada's atomic scientists live while working at the atomic energy plant at Chalk River.

■ Fining a motorist $2 for ignoring a stop sign, Montreal Recorder Leonce Plante ruled that driving a small European car was no excuse. The accused explained that he was driving behind an ordinary sized car. When it stopped, he stopped, and when it moved, he moved. The size of the car ahead, he said, prevented him from seeing the sign.

■ A design for a "Canada" badge for Canadian sailors has been worked out at Navy headquarters. Canadian sailors were fed up with being called "lime juicers", among other things, by American "gobs" and they asked for something to identify them as Canadians in foreign ports.

■ At Portage La Prairie, Man., nearly 700 people entered a name-calling contest to christen a new school. The School Board announced that "Prince Charles School" was the best entry. Thirty-three contestants thought the same and as the contest prize was $10 the winners will do little more than clear expenses.

■ A pet raccoon named "Zorro" was charged with breaking and entering last week and released on bail and a promise of good behavior to owner Lance Evans of Toronto. He broke

into a neighbor's home, chewed the knobs off the radio. Owner was located in time to prevent police in a squad car from turning his pet loose at the city limits.

■ Three New Zealand youths, aged 17, 19 and 20, stowed away on a ship in Wellington, NZ, harbor with the intention of making a 1,500-mile trip to Sydney, Australia. Instead they found themselves in Vancouver. They were discovered by Captain A. E. Norvalls of *SS Kronviken* two days out. He told them they should have boarded the ship alongside the *Kronviken* in Wellington harbor. They will be returned to Wellington on the *Kronviken's* return trip this month and when they reach home will have travelled 15,000 miles.

■ Ex-Private Richard C. McGregor, in his middle seventies, of the 53rd Battalion, CEF, is now drawing a veteran's allowance in Saskatoon because an old girl friend said "I'd recognize that laugh anywhere", although when she first saw him she didn't know him. He had been believed killed in action in 1917 and as his own memory is spasmodic and he gave the name of Duncan McGregor officials had previously been unable to check his story.

■ Renfrew, Ont., farmers went gunning following an outbreak of sheep and lamb killing and shot an animal identified by a hunter as a wolf. After stretching and drying, the skin was submitted to Toronto for the $15 bounty but a few days later the hide was returned minus the bounty with a note stating that the pelt was that of a police dog.

■ A Montrealer, who shall be nameless, is gleeful about a statement by William S. Bomby of the Ontario Pest Control Association. Announcing a plan to start a block-by-block method of destroying rodents, he said Toronto has three times as many rats as people.

■ A hundred boys and girls from across Canada arrived in Toronto to compete in the National Farm Club competion. Doris Mitchell, 16-year-old from Amherst, NS, and Ardyth Steele from Scotia Bay liked Toronto's tall buildings and shop windows. Ardyth divides her time between the study of potatoes and Grade 11 correspondence school, while Doris is interested in cows. She had brought a book with her to read—"Care of the Cow at Calving Time".

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By Order of the Board.

L. I. HALL,
Secretary-Treasurer.

Toronto, November 16th, 1949.

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Notice is hereby given that the half-yearly dividend of 20c per share has been declared on Class A Shares of the Company payable December 31, 1949 to shareholders of record at the close of business on December 15, 1949.

By Order of the Board
JOHN S. LEWIS,
Secretary.

Toronto, Ontario,
November 15, 1949.

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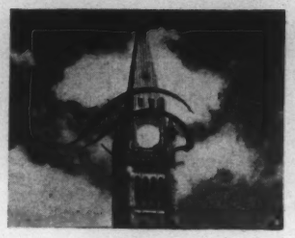

OTTAWA VIEW

ANOTHER HOT POTATO

FOR a Government with a more than two-thirds majority in what was to be a quiet session, troubles are piling up remarkably fast. Rents, combines and now Communists. We have not heard the last about the suspected disloyalty in the Film Board. The fact that confidential work for the Department of National Defence has to be given to private firms rather than to the Government's own agency is highly embarrassing. And the only possible presumption from the labored explanations given in Parliament is that the Government suspects Communists in the Film Board without being able to nail them. It is to Mr. St. Laurent's credit that he wants to safeguard Canadians from the vicious condemnation-by-rumor which has brought such shame on Washington. But he came very near to saying that leakage of information which the Government happens not to want published (such as the fact that the Film Board is not trusted with confidential work) is the same thing as disloyalty or subversion. Immediately after the illegal suppression of the McGregor report this was very badly received.

GORDON ON COMBINES

OFFICIALS and stenographers are busy searching confidential wartime files for official assurances exempting the flour-millers from the Combines Act.

On the public record is a speech Donald Gordon made to the Canadian Club of Toronto on March 30, 1942. He said: "Give up all the practices which were necessary to safeguard your interests in the happy hunting grounds of competitive business. . . . *Create monopoly practices,* eliminate waste, frown upon every selfish consideration of future markets. . . . The competitive system must be replaced with one which is based entirely upon the criterion of maximum production."

CLAXTON'S PET JET

SN'S COVER PICTURE last week aroused general interest. The jet model held by Mr. Claxton was a mock-up of an earlier design of the secret XC-100 long-range, all-weather fighter now nearing the stage of test flight at the AVRO plant at Malton. Considerable modifications have now been made in the design.

THE PEARSON SPELL

IT IS A DISADVANTAGE for a minister so new to the political scene to be received with such awed cordiality as the House accorded L. B. Pearson when he concluded the two-day debate on external affairs. At 10.15 p.m. when Mr. Pearson got up to speak, the House was almost two-thirds full and the galleries held far more than the usual number of spectators. The speech was a most able summing-up of the issues raised in the debate. Mr. Pearson dealt with most of the questions which had been asked. If he didn't actually answer them, he at least made the House think that he had. Some day he will have to "get his feet in the trough" and take his share of the Government's mistakes. For the present he is serving Canada better by earning international laurels at Lake Success.

STANDING UP FOR OURSELVES

MOST AMERICANS have never understood Canada's relationship with Britain and the Commonwealth, and it's almost equally hard for the British to understand our relationship with the U.S. London was a bit startled by Mr. Pearson's blunt repudiation of the role of "camp-follower" and by his outspokenness on some of the questions outstanding between Canada and the U.S. Canadian policy is certainly being expressed with a new and welcome forthrightness.

SPEAKER AND GOVERNMENT

LAST WEEK old parliamentary observers were almost cheering when Speaker Ross Macdonald ruled against the Prime Minister on a point of order. On Monday, when another point of order was raised against the Government, he ruled for Mr. St. Laurent. It was a pity that George Drew appealed against the ruling. If the Speaker is fair when he rules against the Government, he can also be fair when he rules for them. The highlight was Stanley Knowles' rebuke to Mr. St. Laurent for seeming to sneer at points of order. Ordinarily quiet, Knowles became forceful and impressive as he insisted that the rules were the minority's only protection against wanton misuse of power by the majority. The PM blushed.

COMMITTEE CURE-ALL

GOVERNMENTS have a trick of referring difficult questions to Royal Commissions. The Opposition version of this trick being developed by the Conservatives is to try to refer them to Committees. "We may be ineffective in attacking this in the House," they seem to say. "But if we had a Committee—ah! then. . ."

SATURDAY NIGHT

THE CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY
Established 1887

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cover

THE MAN ON HORSEBACK is a famous figure in French politics. In 1873 he was General Boulanger; today he is General de Gaulle. Professor Conrad de Buisseret, now with the University of Alberta, goes deep into the reasons for the anarchy of French politics — the break with tradition, the class strife, the want of an elite and the lack of a spirit of discipline—which periodically set the stage for someone who will restore order and authority, as de Gaulle wants to do. The writer hopes that France's "permanent crisis" can be solved in a less painful way.
—Photo by Miller

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Vol. 65, No. 8 Whole No. 2953

Capital comment

Millions for Drought Relief

NOT MUCH noticed in a week full of sensations connected with the resignation of Fred McGregor, discussions of defence policy, Lester Pearson's review of the state of the world, and the screening of Film Board personnel for possible Communists, was Rt. Hon. James G. Gardiner's reference to the work of the Prairie Farm Assistance Act.

I would be surprised, if, on a quiz contest, one Canadian out of a hundred living in other parts of Canada than Palliser's Triangle would be able to tell you anything about the purpose and scope of that Act. Yet, in the past ten years, the Canadian taxpayer has contributed over $60 million towards its benefits. For enlightenment of the taxpayer in other parts of Canada, it is surely worth an occasional glance.

It was recognized during the 1930's that a considerable portion of the prairie provinces was a particularly high-risk area where grain farmers were occasionally prosperous when bumper crops and high prices coincided, but where they could be reduced to destitution in a year or two when the opposite happened. Crop insurance was widely demanded. Whether the PFA Act is in any strict actuarial sense "insurance," I leave to agricultural lawyers or students of semantics to settle. Premiums are paid, anyway, and benefits distributed, under the Act, when yields of wheat and other grains fall to a "failure" or semi-failure level; and also when cereal prices dip below a price presumably considered a bare cost level.

Cushion Needed

The violent oscillations between plenty and destitution which can occur in the heart of the "dust-bowl" country would be incredible to a farmer in more stable regions. I remember calculating once that the railway sub-division of Moose Jaw had raised 60 million bushels of wheat worth about a dollar a bushel in 1928; and that three years later the same sub-division harvested one million bushels at an average price of 40 cents. Any business which swung from gross receipts of $60 million to as low as $0.4 million within two or three years would need either tremendous reserves or a cushion of some other kind.

Ten years ago the Prairie Farm Assistance Act came into effect. It provided that when any considerable area of the prairie suffered crop failure or ruinously low prices its benefits would come into play. Payments of from $200 to $500 per farm were payable under these circumstances: no fortune, certainly, but enough to make sure the farm family wouldn't go entirely destitute. Sixty per cent of the payments were made to the farmer at the end of the drought year; the remaining forty just before next spring's planting — *i.e.*, in time to lay up the winter's groceries and coal, and for the costs connected with spring work.

Outgo and Income

The cost of the scheme is partly met by a levy on all grain sold in the prairie provinces: one per cent of the value. Mr. Gardiner, the other night, gave some figures. For every three dollars paid out of the fund, over the past decade, about one dollar has been received from this levy. The latest report of the PFA Act I could get hold of showed payments of just over $90 millions and receipts of $33 millions from the 1 per cent levy. This year's payments will again be heavy.

Hazen R. Argue, CCF member whose riding takes in some of the most susceptible drought area in southern Saskatchewan, emphasized that the farmers in the high-risk area were not asking for hand-outs, but that they felt that present payments are inadequate at current production costs. They would be willing to pay two or three per cent, even a few five per cent, in the form of levy or premium, if the drought insurance benefits could be materially increased.

Drought records like that make outsiders wonder whether there are not still large areas of land being actively farmed which should be withdrawn and returned to permanent pasture with crested wheat grass or other drought-resistant forage plants. Does the PFA Act and similar provisions tend to set up fringes of marginal lands which are not much better than "rural slums?" Possibly there are such areas, but the crop fluctuations in the west are over long-term cycles, and land cannot be peremptorily condemned. As the CCF member illustrated, sixteen municipalities around Swift Current produced between 1919 and 1941 more than $200 million in wealth, while Government assistance there on all levels in the same period cost $25 million.

by Wilfrid Eggleston

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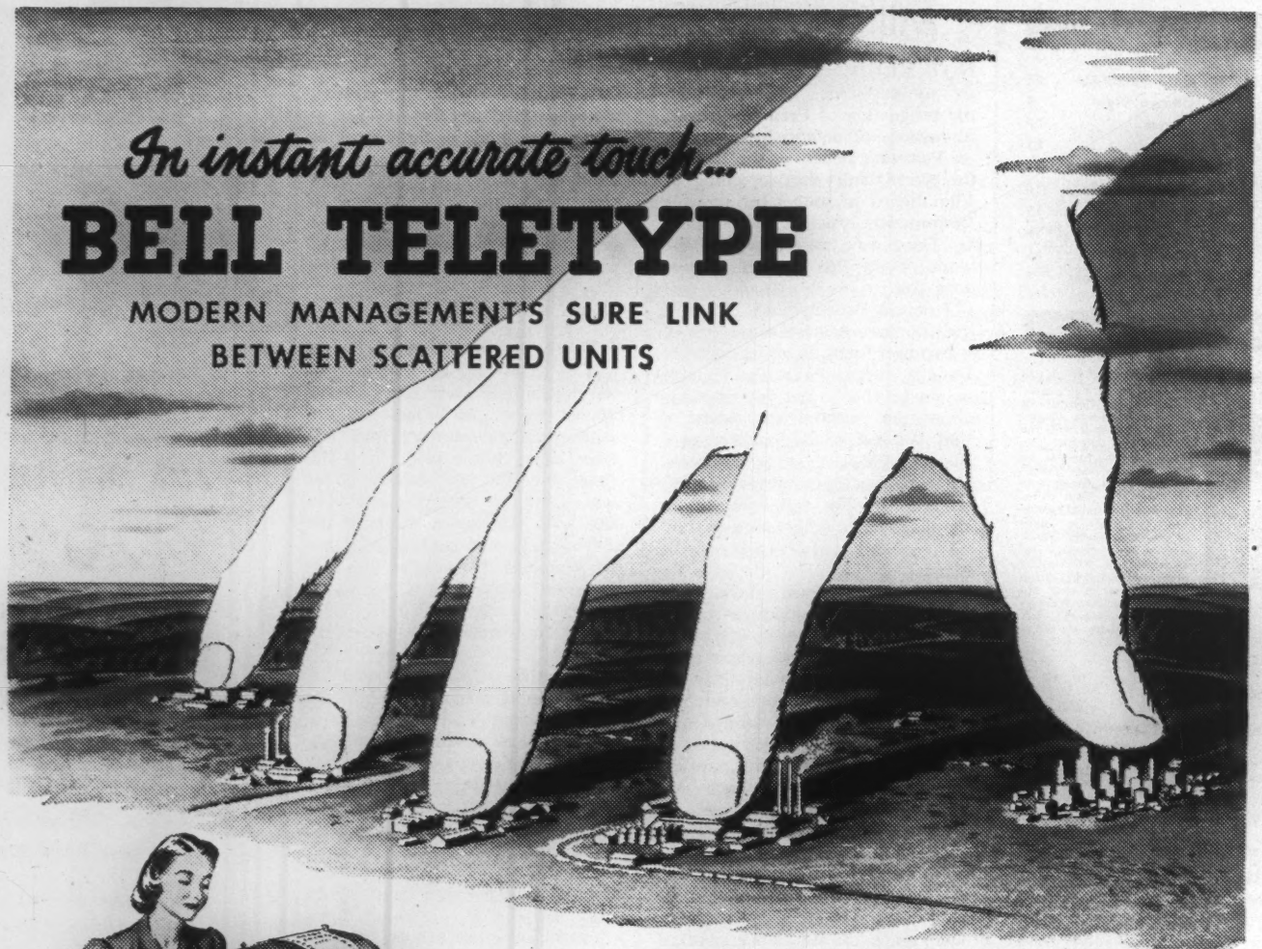

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SATURDAY NIGHT

The Front Page

Vol. 65 No. 8 November 29, 1949

Obligation of Honor

WHEN the law duly enacted by Parliament lays down that the Government shall perform a certain act within a certain time, it does not, it is true, provide any machinery for compelling the Government to perform that act within that time or for penalizing it for failure to perform it. Neither the Government nor any member of it can be fined or sent to jail for disobeying the Combines Act, as a company could be fined or an officer of a company sent to jail for disobeying it. In that respect the obligations laid on the Government are different from the obligations laid on the common citizen.

The *Winnipeg Free Press* argues in effect that it does not really matter that the Government has disobeyed the law, because there is no alternative Government which could be relied on to deal more effectively with combines than the present one. The question is not one of dealing with combines; in its belief that the milling industry should not be prosecuted the Government may have been perfectly right. The question is one of making it clear to this and to future Governments that the Canadian people expect them to obey the strict injunctions laid upon them by the law. The *Free Press* is one of the newspapers which we should have expected to take the lead in the effort to arouse public opinion and to proclaim that the tone of public life has been gravely lowered by the Government's inaction. That it has failed to do so seems to us to be evidence of a very loose kind of thinking, not merely in the *Free Press* office, but among a great many Canadians, on a very imporant subject.

The Combines Case

IT HAS NEVER been a part of our democratic system that the Government's ultimate responsibility to the people should absolve it from observance of the law or subservience to Parliament. It is on the other hand one of the most fundamental conditions of our freedom that Government is as much under the law as any private individual and that it is in all its acts responsible to our representatives in Parliament from whom it derives its whole authority.

The present is a time when it is vital to insist on these facts simply because the people of Canada have given the Liberal government such an overwhelming majority. We are sure that they are known and cherished by the Minister of Justice, Mr. Stuart Garson, whom we do not suspect of any dictatorial ambitions. When therefore he contradicted these basic democratic tenets in the House of Commons we are ready to regard it as a temporary and unfortunate lapse. He had been speaking for an hour, presenting, through many interruptions, a very complicated defence of the Government's actions in the combines case, when he uttered the unfortunate dictum that the Government had broken the law because it relied on the fact that it was responsible to the people for its actions. It did not, as Mr. Knowles was quick to point out, rely on that fact enough to tell the people what it had done before it went to them to renew its mandate.

If we excuse Mr. Garson for this lapse, charity can go no further. Mr. Garson could only have been guilty of it because he had no proper answer to the Opposition challenge, which was not concerned with the rights and wrongs of Mr. McGregor's report on the flour-milling industry. The spirited defence given by the Government for the flour-millers' wartime actions may be entirely justified; but it does not answer the question why the Government delayed for ten months the publication of a report which it was legally bound to publish in 15 days. The Prime Minister, who very properly rose to acknowledge his share of the responsibility, gave no more answer than Mr. Garson.

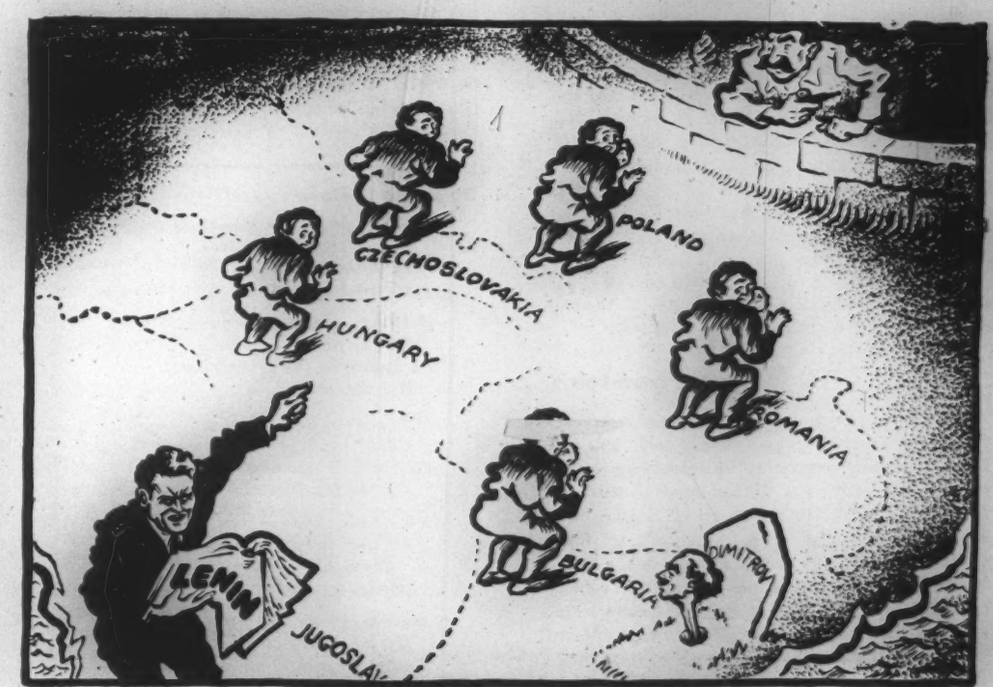
We believe that neither of these ministers has any thought whatever of undermining our system of law. But we hope it is fully realized by both of them that they do immeasurable harm, to themselves, to the Government and to our whole Parliamentary system, once they put the Government above the law.

That is what they did in this case; and we expect them to understand why it is if the Canadian people feel from now on a little less sure of their trustworthiness.

More Royal Visits

"AT FREQUENT intervals, subject to the health of Their Majesties, we should have them with us in our own land", said Mr. Gordon Graydon in the House of Commons the other day, and he was expressing the sentiments of millions of his fellow-Canadians. Canada is their land as well as ours; they are the King and Queen of Canada in precisely the same sense now as they are the King and Queen of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; and if it was ever true that Canada had to be a Dominion because it could not be a Kingdom on account of the susceptibilities of the people of the adjacent republic it is true no longer, and the abandonment of the term Dominion should be accompanied by the adoption of the term Kingdom, perfectly appropriate now to the international position which Canada has assumed.

Few Canadians, we fancy, cherish any desire that this country should become a republic, or any delusion that human liberty is more secure under that form of government than under a constitutional monarchy. Monarchy, it is true, is incompatible with the system of government employed in the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics and its satellites; but that system of government is not widely approved in Canada. It is incompatible also with any deep-seated contempt for the storied past, for the hereditary principle, and for the restraints and disciplines of religion; but that contempt is also not widely spread in this country. The Royal Family of Canada is the personal symbol of the continuity of our relationship with the great civilization of Western Europe. It links us with England, with Scotland, with Wales, and even with France, which gave to the British Crown its Norman origin and even the



"SOVIET COMMUNISM HAS DEGENERATED"

language—"le Roi le veult"—in which the will of the monarch is still proclaimed.

This journal would like to see the Royal Family spend a good deal of their time in Canada, and we are confident that their doing so would be advantageous to them, to this country, and to the peace and mutual understanding of the nations of the world.

Amendment Procedure

IT IS the earnest hope of this journal that when the representatives of the Dominion and Provincial Governments sit down in January to discuss the method by which the reserved portions of the Canadian constitution shall be amended, they will be influenced a great deal more by the example of Australia than by that of South Africa. And it is our great regret that the Parliament of the Dominion has already, in regard to the unreserved portions of that constitution, adopted a principle of parliamentary absolutism which is identical with that of South Africa except that it requires only a majority vote in each of the two Houses whereas in South Africa for certain purposes a two-thirds vote of the total number of members of both Houses together is required.

The Australian system, which has admittedly made amendment too difficult, is defective chiefly because it fails to distinguish between those elements of the constitution which should be difficult to amend and those which should not. For the former its safeguards do not seem excessive; for the latter they probably are. It requires an absolute majority of each House of Parliament, followed by submission to the electors in each State of the Commonwealth; there must be an approving majority in a majority of States, and an approving majority in the Commonwealth as a whole.

The refusal of the Australians to leave any part of their constitution in the sole and final arbitrament of their elected legislators seems to us wise and farseeing. Legislators have quite enough power, and quite enough disposition to use their power, as it is, without making them masters of the very machinery which is employed in the process of making them legislators. We have very little enthusiasm for the referendum in connection with any matter of current law-making. But the referendum as part of the procedure for changing the fundamental law, the whole constitutional basis, of the system of government—the referendum for that function seems to us almost indispensable. We dislike the taking of absolute power over the unreserved parts of the constitution by Parliament; we shall dislike still more any taking of power over the reserved parts by the combined legislators of Ottawa and a given number out of the ten Provinces.

Even if two-thirds of all the legislators of Canada vote for an amendment, the voters of Canada should still have a chance to vote against it.

Fundamental Freedoms

IT IS now clear that it is the intention of the Dominion Government — which will not, we fancy, be strongly traversed by more than one or two of the provincial Governments — that the Dominion-Provincial Conference of January next shall be strictly confined to the agenda set forth in the notice sent by the Dominion to the Provinces. This agenda does not include the subject of a Bill of Rights such as Senator Roebuck has proposed that the Senate request the Government to submit to the Conference with a view to its adoption as an amendment, or rather an addition, to the BNA Act. The Province of Saskatchewan, it is strongly rumored, will press for the inclusion of this subject in the proceedings of the Conference, but will probably not receive sufficient support to override those who want to stick to the agenda. The motion itself, indeed, may before these lines are read have been voted down in the Senate.

Nevertheless the raising of this subject by Senator Roebuck, and the extended and very serious discussion of it by the Upper House, have not been without a great deal of value. For one thing the motion has elicited strong expressions of approval from labor organizations and other elements of the public, extending far beyond the

—Karsh

GRAYDON: *Bring the King to Canada.*

intelligentsia which has until now provided the chief support for the Bill of Rights idea. The Roebuck motion followed pretty closely the Declaration of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms drafted by a committee of the United Nations, and approved by Canada as a member of that body; and that circumstance alone certainly added a great deal of weight to the principle which it set forth. To the principle indeed there has been practically no objection; criticism has been confined to the method of putting it in operation, and the opportuneness of the occasion which Mr. Roebuck sought to utilize.

Up to the time of writing the debate has been participated in by Senators Robertson, Turgeon, Fallis and Gouin. Senator Robertson for the Government stated that he would have no objection to the matter being referred to a committee of the Senate provided that the remission were not accompanied by a specific request that it be referred by the Government to the January Conference; but "the time necessarily required for organization and the summoning of witnesses would make it unlikely that the committee could hold any hearings this session." This rather suggests that the subject may be kept alive in the Senate under another form than that of a proposal to the January Conference.

Senator Turgeon, while also opposing the sending of the recommendation to the January Conference, stressed the fact that the United Nations has not yet produced its proposed draft covenant on human rights. He was "inclined to believe" that further action by Canada in the direction of safeguarding these rights would require an amendment to the constitution.

Mrs. Fallis, whose satisfaction with the BNA Act in its present form is naturally somewhat qualified by the fact that if the Supreme Court had had its way she would have been held ineligible to become a Senator because of her sex, endorsed the resolution as "an opportunity to us as Senators to help mould public opinion along the lines suggested, so that the hard-earned and dearly-bought freedoms which we enjoy may always be preserved." And Mr. Gouin upheld the decision of the Joint Committee (of 1948) of the two Houses, that it would be unwise to define the rights in question "before a firm public opinion has been formed as to their nature,"— and also before the full responsibility for the Canadian constitution has been taken over by Canada so that no intervention by the British Parliament would be required. Throughout the debate there has been practically no expression of hostility to the basic idea of a Bill of Rights as an eventual part of the fundamental law of the land. That is a notable piece of progress.

On Going It Alone

IF THE past were a page of glory
With never an ugly blot,
I'm sure I would be a Tory;
Which I am not.

If I had an earnest and hearty
Dislike for use-and-wont,
I'd belong to the Lib'ral Party.
But then I don't.

If I believed that a Planner
Could set things right forever,
I'd carry a Socialist banner.
But do I? Never!

No woolly-thinking outsider
Of any talkative kind,
No theoretical guider
Makes up MY mind!

Now here's the gist of my little song
To my fellow-citizens passing by,
You're all a little bit right—and wrong.
And—strange to admit it—so am I.

J. E. M.

It's Retroactive Now?

THE *Toronto Telegram*, which a short time ago was earnestly maintaining that the Charitable Gifts Act was not retroactive in its application to past wills, now defends it on the ground that retroactive legislation may be a good thing. The *Telegram* quotes the British Attorney General, Sir Hartley Shawcross, as saying about the heirs affected by the Married Women (Restraint Upon Anticipation) Bill recently passed at Westminster: "Do not allow their happiness and future to be controlled by a dead hand stretching out from the grave".

We wonder just whose happiness and future the *Telegram* expects to be benefitted most by the compulsory sale of its rival evening newspaper.

Irrigation Celebration

A JUBILEE which should not escape notice in any part of Canada is that of the turning on of the water in the main canal of the Alberta Railway and Irrigation Company, which occurred on November 14, 1899. It was duly celebrated in the town of Magrath in Southern Alberta, but death had removed from the scene the man chiefly responsible for the achievement only a few days before the celebration took place.

The irrigation scheme was carried out by Elliot T. Galt, who owned coal mines at Lethbridge and

had built railways to connect them with Medicine Hat and Great Falls, Montana, obtaining land grants along the way. But it was the late Charles A. Magrath who proposed that irrigation be applied to develop these land grants, which in their unwatered condition could maintain only about one-fortieth of a steer per acre, but are now producing sugar beets and other crops at well over $100 per acre. The Winnipeg *Free Press* recalls that the Magrath installation was the first large-scale community-organized irrigation scheme in Canada, and points out that from that humble beginning have grown "the vast projects and plans of PFRA which have as their ultimate purpose the changing of large segments of the Palliser Triangle from a semi-arid land of uncertain crops to a green and constantly productive countryside of happy farms."

Acclaim and Rejection

REFERRING to the tremendous ovations given in many parts of Canada to Pandit Nehru during his recent visit, *The New Canadian* observes rather aptly that it was not long ago that one of Canada's Provinces still denied the franchise to men of his race. "Undoubtedly some of the members from that Province who thumped their desks were among those very people who opposed the granting of the vote to Asiatics."

There is a little too much in Canada of the disposition to clap foreigners on the back and tell them that they are fine fellows—if only they will be good enough to stay at home. It is not much of a real compliment to a man to cheer him when he comes as a visitor but deny entry and citizenship to him or his relatives when they seek to come and live with us.

Conference Program

THERE are several good reasons for supposing that what the Government has in mind for the Dominion-Provincial Conference of January 10 is a program rigidly restricted to the single subject of defining the method of amending the constitution in regard to the reserved sections—those whose amendment it does not claim as lying within the power of Parliament. By itself asserting that the power of amending the unreserved sections belongs solely to the Dominion Parliament, and that the people of Canada have no rights in the matter except through Parliament, it has given substantial color to the theory that the power of amending the reserved sections (which affect the powers of the Provinces) belongs to the Legislatures of the Provinces, and that the people have no rights in that matter either except through their Legislatures.

It is suggested that it will propose that the consent of any seven Legislatures shall suffice to effect an amendment; and if the representatives of seven provincial Governments join it in that view at the Conference we shall probably find ourselves provided with a constitution in which that method of amendment is sanctified for all future time. It is certainly difficult to see any way of stopping such a procedure, though we can hardly suppose that an arrangement which would give the four Maritime and three Prairie Provinces the power to alter the constitutional rights of Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia without their consent would be very popular in the latter parts of the country.

We need hardly say that neither this method of amending the distribution of powers in a federal state, nor this method of arriving at a method for doing so, seems to us to be either wise or just. We do not believe that the people of Canada are adequately represented by their Parliament, nor the peoples of the various Provinces by their Legislatures, for the tremendously important business of devising a constitution (or at least of devising one of its most important elements, the method for its own amendment), nor for the equally important business of amending it. In that business the people, the whole body of the electors, seem to us to have rights which their various legislative bodies ought not to take away from them. It may be that the Government has in mind some sort of referendum upon whatever scheme the conference may report; in that event our objections may be mitigated or even removed. But the precedent of the taking over of full power over the unreserved sections by Parliament is not encouraging.

Books and Children

THE real difference between the highly moralistic "books for children" of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, a superb collection of which has just been presented to the Toronto Public Library by Edgar Osborne, county librarian of Derbyshire, England, and the lurid productions which are now replacing them in juvenile favor, lies in the fact that until very recently children read books which were bought for them by their elders, whereas now they read books which they have paid for themselves. The change is fundamentally economic. The modern parent gives his children a chunk of money and turns them loose; the parent of olden times either gave them no money, or supervised with great care the manner in which they spent what he did give them.

The same economic change has produced the same change in children's entertainments. The taste of the children has not much influence upon the live-actors' theatre, because the price of admission is too high for the pocket-money of all but the most fortunate of them. But the less adult part of the cinema is largely produced with a view to attracting youngsters of ten to sixteen, who pick their own shows and pay their own way in, and have their own standards of criticism. It is obviously not to be expected that these standards will have much reference to genuine artistic merit.

So long as the idea continues to prevail that the way to teach children to avoid the fire is to let them get burned—and that is the essence of the current psychological teaching of the day—we of this North American continent (with the partial exception of Quebec) will go on allowing juveniles to buy whatever they like, thus providing a profitable market for all those who are willing to exploit the juvenile taste without regard to moral or aesthetic consequences. Censorship operated by law will do very little to improve the situation. Censorship operated by the parents, and accompanied by a judicious leading towards better reading and better movies, might do a good deal, but the popular view is that parents should do nothing and the state should correct all the consequences of what they haven't done.

Our English Words

("The twin annoyances . . . of poverty and ignominity . . . the world of crime devisement. . ."—Extracts from same article by a featured writer in the *Globe and Mail*.)

WHERE YOU and I will struggle for a word,
Whether a verb, an adjective or noun,
Shakespeare, that extraordinary bird,
Rapidly minted it and put it down.

But you and I, with ordinary brains,
Farming for food on literary grounds,
Must be content to forage the domains
Within the dictionary's narrow bounds.

Not ours, the right to cause new words to live.
Our little reputation is too frail:
Such coinage is the sole prerogative
Of William Shakespeare and the Globe and Mail.

J. E. P.

passing show

WITH all these works on "My Three Years in Moscow" it seems odd that no Russian diplomat has yet done "My Three Years in Ottawa." Of course most of those who could do it are believed to be dead.

In Prague they purge the rich, in Canada we merely soak them. You can purge them only once, but you can go on soaking them time and time again.

Tim Buck announces that "the guarantees written in the BNA Act concerning religion and education in the Province of Quebec are inviolate and must be honored in both the letter and the spirit". Precisely as similar guarantees have been honored in Czechoslovakia.

Cables state that it is now again permissible to say "Persia", but we don't care. We have got used to talking about the Laws of the Medes and Iranians and we shall go right on doing so.

"Canada finds her right to be master in her own house again challenged", says Blair Fraser in *Maclean's*. She might try being mistress for a while.

The citizens of Quebec City have the highest income of any city in Canada. Or else they're the most honest at reporting it.

Who is going to control the people who

will control the atom bomb?

The new Defence Minister of Poland is a Russian. He will do a good job defending Poland—from the enemies of Russia.

Japanese Prime Minister says Japan may decline to make a peace treaty. And may resume the war?

We can no longer sneer at the bally British; they've produced the British Ballet.

The people who have changed the telephone book entry from "Dominion of Canada" to "Government of Canada" are the people who seem to think that the Government *is* the Dominion.

A lady witness at a labor relations hearing in BC was asked what does it cost to keep a husband. Surely the answer depends on the competition.

Lucy says that she is not going to accept any more unstamped cheques unless they are for five cents more than the required sum; three cents for the stamp and two cents for the trouble of hunting it up and putting it on.

CAN FRANCE GOVERN

by I. Conrad de Buisseret

WHAT IS THE MATTER with France? How is it that a great nation, once the leader of Europe, and still rich with talent, seems condemned to a permanent crisis?

In this country of logic and common sense, why have there been 15 different regimes since 1789, the year of the First Revolution, and 53 governments since 1919?

This is a question which clever students of political science have pondered. Some Frenchmen and more foreigners have concluded that it is because France's institutions are not entirely suited to her.

The present French system is a combination of the republican regime and the parliamentary system, a dangerous combination which cannot be found anywhere else. In the United States, for instance, there is no such a thing as a parliamentary republic; there is a republic, but no parliamentarism, since the parliament can not upset the executive power.

The President of the United States has acquired more and more "personal" power, as was proved by F. D. Roosevelt, and in a certain measure, by Mr. Truman.

The executive power, in America, tends to become individualized, as every power should be, whereas in France, the evolution of her institutions has brought a steady decrease of the power of the executive, a swelling of the power of the elected bodies, and hence the instability of the governmental principle itself.

When one turns to compare French institutions with British, one sees that these, too, are entirely different. To begin with, Britain has a parliamentary system but no republic. As Lord Cecil put it, "Britain is a democracy tempered and corrected by Monarchy." In France the dangerous and unstable combination of republic and parliamentary government is not balanced by monarchy.

French and British Regimes

Then, too, the real power in Britain is less in the hands of parliament, than in those of the cabinet, which tends to become an "extra-parliamentary" institution, the Ministers and Secretaries of State not being named by parliament.

In fact, the British regime is democratic in name only, as the legislative activity of the Commons is progressively reduced and power shifts to the Prime Minister, master of the decisions of his cabinet. In France, the Assembly strictly controls the Premier and his Ministers.

The weak spot of the French regime is that the French constituents, and particularly those of the Third and Fourth Republics, did not establish a central executive power that would be strong enough to be efficient. The republic, in France, has always been somewhat like a body without a head. The legislators of 1875, it was said at the time, wanted the chief of the executive to be "tied up like a sausage".

True, the President of the Republic has some rights. He may sign treaties, command the armies in wartime (though this would seem absurd nowadays), and dissolve the Assembly. However, since the days of Marshal MacMahon no French President has even dreamed of using this prerogative, the only one that could make of him a real Chief.

Unfortunately the picture that other countries have of the head of the French State, as a man in top hat and white gloves, with the *Légion d'honneur* pinned on his chest, agreeably receiving sovereigns and ambassadors and shooting rabbits at Fontainebleau, is not entirely false.

If we look towards the United States again, we see that the President is for four years the Master. He does what he wants to do. His cabinet ministers are responsible to him and not to Congress. He has the right of veto. His position is entirely different from that of his French colleague, who cannot dissolve the Cabinet or even choose his ministers.

During the Second World War, and after the liberation, there was a strong movement in France for the reinforcement of the executive power and for the reduction of the power of the Assemblies to legislative functions alone. The text of the Constitution voted in October 1946 did give more power to the Premier, if not to the President; this is a step in the right direction.

The present President, Mr. Vincent Auriol, has certainly done his best to reinforce his position. In his crusade Mr. Auriol has against him, however, tradition, the parties—even his own Socialist Party—and the majority of Frenchmen who, by paradox, want a Leader but fear a Chief.

But all things considered, even if the regimes were the same in Britain and France, it ought not to be taken for granted that institutions which suit one nation, are necessarily good for the other.

First of all, the spirit of the Anglo-Saxon race is very different from that of the Latins. The former willingly accept discipline and are conscious citizens; the latter, undisciplined by nature, "fond of liberty to the extent of licence and of peace to the extent of servitude," perpetually oscillate between the longing for a "strong man", and a tendency towards anarchic individualism.

—from "Le Général de la Perche"

DE GAULLE AND THOREZ: *The General is blamed for inviting the Communist leader, condemned as a traitor, to return from Moscow.*

The British put discipline and order in a democratic regime, because these qualities are innate in them. This is not true of the French, and in France democracy becomes chaos.

Also, whereas in Great Britain the parliamentary system developed from the aristocratic system, in France it was elevated on the ruins of the French nobility and is still influenced by the deadly spirit of class conflict.

Historical, racial and psychological conditions make France different from Great Britain, and shape her for a different regime. But the French revolutionary legislators were "metaphysicians" more than politicians; they thought that they could abolish with one pen-stroke institutional forms which had evolved in France through centuries. They attempted to start again, from zero, to create new forms of political life.

Constitutions Ignore Tradition

The ancients said, however, that the new must have roots in the old, that the future is born in the past and all true evolution is traditional; this is as true in politics as it is in biology. Lowell praised the fathers of the American Constitution for not being seduced by French sophism that a nation may order for itself new constitutions as one orders a new suit. "They might as well have thought of ordering a new flesh and skin."

This sophism has given France twenty constitutions since 1789, constitutions unfitted to the genius of the nation, which is convulsed periodically in an attempt to be rid of them.

Another school of thought believes that France's permanent crisis is due to the failure of her "élite." Without some kind of aristocracy (in Greek: "government by the best") whether of name, talent, morality or competence, a nation cannot lead a normal life.

In past centuries, her nobility gave to France leaders in war and peace, thinkers and philosophers. But this class started to decline under Louis XIV, who sought to transform it into a caste of foppish courtiers.

Then the first French revolution decimated the ranks of the nobility, abolished it as a class and proclaimed the death of the hereditary principle. In Britain on the contrary, throughout the centuries and in a changing world, this vital principle has been maintained and the nobility has continued to discharge its duties of leadership.

The maintenance of a nobility, said Burke, "appears to me to be the result of profound reflection; or, rather, the happy effect of following nature, which is wisdom without reflection, and above it. A people will not look forward to posterity, who never look backward to their ancestors."

Profound wisdom! But France, having abolished the hereditary principle, has built her whole political structure on the electoral principle alone. Edouard Herriot, one of the fathers of the Third Republic, has confessed that this principle fails to give France the élite which she needs perhaps more than any other country.

THERE HAVE BEEN TEN *governments in France since the end of the Second World War, 53 since the First World War; and the nation has had 20 Constitutions since the Revolution of 1789. Shown are the premiers since 1944: de Gaulle, Gouin, Bidault, Blum, Ramadier, Schuman, Marie, Schuman again, Queuille, and now Bidault again.* —Miller, Wheeler, Fr. Inf. Service, NFB, International, AFP

...ERSELF?

Her Democrary Borders on Chaos Because She Ignores Tradition And Nation Lacks an Elite

Yet, even though officially abolished, the French nobility should have tried to carry on with its time-old traditions of service of the State. Instead of that, it sulked and confined itself to sterile opposition. Today, its members still know how to die magnificently, as they do in wartime; but they have forgotten how to live and serve.

What class of society replaced the aristocracy in its leading role? The "bourgeoisie" or middle-class, had begun to play an important role before 1789; its real triumph came under Louis-Philippe, "the bourgeois King". It gave to France many famous politicians and statesmen: Thiers, Deschanel, the brothers Cambon, Barrère, Clémenceau, Barrès, and many others.

But, with all its good qualities, the bourgeoisie is accused of one vice: greed for money. The noble sought power, honor, prestige; the bourgeois sought wealth. Money became a dominant passion for the people of modern France. History shows that often, indeed, plutocratic oligarchies are republican.

The basis of monarchy was honor, of republican institutions, virtue. When virtue fails, the foundations of a republic are shaken, corruption spreads, "five-percenters" and even "twenty-five percenters" multiply; they buy everything and everybody —and everything and everybody is for sale.

Cynicism, which may be a quality in a superior man, becomes a vice. For statesmen must be devoted to the public good, follow high moral standards and put the interests of the country above greed and personal passions. Minister Paul Reynaud wrote at the eve of World War II: "A new élite is indispensable to France". Many of his fellow countrymen agree with him.

Many Parties, No Compromise

Also contributing to the instability of the French regime is the multiplicity of political parties. Bismarck, who was a clever man, once declared that one party in a country was too few; three were too many. "Two is the ideal number, for this provides an outlet for the spirit of opposition which each man carries in his heart; but which is unlikely to upset the balance of the affairs of State."

Actually, the immense majority of French people wish there were no more than two parties in their country! Each party claims to know the only and true remedy for the evils afflicting France, and each behaves as though it were intent on annihilating all of its opponents.

It is difficult for a Frenchman to appreciate any other opinion than his own, as the history of the country's wars of religion and revolutions shows. Mentally, psychologically and intellectually, the French have long since achieved their own heights of perfection; they are therefore "closed" to what may be going on in another man's mind or soul. Their aspiration to clarity, and to simplification, prevents them from grasping too well the extreme complexity and contradiction of different ideas and ideologies. A Frenchman will sometimes agree to a compromise, but he will not come to a real concession, which would make him really understand and adopt other people's view-points.

In the last century, political divisions were fairly simple. The aristocrats belonged to the Rightist parties: Royalist, Bonapartist, etc., the parties of their fathers. The middle-class were, as a rule, republican and liberal. The workers were socialist.

Today the situation is more complex. Some old parties are dead, or dying; new ones have been born. The combinations of parties or groups change incessantly, and so do their programs. Alliances form and dissolve, to be replaced by others. It is difficult to present a clean picture of this mass of ideologies, ambitions and rivalries.

After the Liberation the Rightist newspapers were suppressed, and their leaders imprisoned if they had not left France. But they did not give up.

As the new regime began to make mistakes these pariahs took courage; their books, instead of being sold under the counter, appeared in book-store windows. They distributed leaflets, and many read them willingly. People again dared to confess that they belonged to the right-wing, without fearing denunciation as traitors. A new party, the P.R.L. or *Republican Party of Liberty* was founded (the word "Republican" being but a protective label) and it has now a large group in the Assembly.

Another important postwar party is the MRP, *Mouvement Républicain Populaire*, or Christian-democrats. Although for some time after the Liberation it was the party of General de Gaulle, the "would-be dictator", it stands actually to the left of centre. This is the party of Premier Bidault and Foreign Minister Schuman.

Everything Is Soon Forgotten

After the Liberation the position of this party was so strong that most Frenchmen considered it then as the only possible group which could block the Communists. But when General de Gaulle withdrew, to found the *Rassemblement du Peuple Français*, the MRP was dealt a hard blow and began to decline.

It would be interesting, if we had space to do so, to examine in detail the parties of the centre and left-centre, such as the Radical-Socialists, now the backbone of the "Third Force", and the Socialists, who, after a brilliant course of many decades, appear to be in decline.

The Communist party, however, is more demanding of our attention. At the beginning of the Second World War, it was outlawed for "anti-national activities", and its leaders hid, in the country itself, or in Russia. In spite of the gallant fight of Communists in the French Underground (after Stalin had been attacked by Hitler) public opinion was against them, after the Liberation.

It is probable that the party would have remained ostracized for a long time had not General de Gaulle himself called the Communists back to public life and power.

However, in France, everything is quickly forgotten—"It is not the Seine which flows in Paris, it is the Lethe", said Adrien Hébrard. Soon public opinion accepted what would have seemed impossible: the Communist Party became again one of the main political bodies of the Nation.

It built its propaganda around the many Communists who gave their lives fighting in the ranks of the *Maquis*. Hatred and dissatisfaction, natural in a country which had suffered so much, brought new supporters to the party, and so did political naïvete. Today, the disciples of Lenin and Stalin are supported by a quarter of the voters of France.

The Communists have infiltrated into the Army, the police, the factories and government bureaus. It is commonly accepted that about 50 per cent of the French police is "red". Stocks of arms are hidden everywhere, and minds as well as bodies are trained for the Revolution.

There are some people who believe that they know the remedy for France's crisis, and that its label is: "de Gaulle". The belief that de Gaulle will come to power sooner or later is still held by many people, in France and abroad, including some who do not particularly like the idea.

Still, many Frenchmen think that de Gaulle has been guilty of grave mistakes. They can not forgive him the amnesty of the Communist traitors, men whom de Gaulle himself now brands as "separatists, serving the interests of a Foreign country." They also reproach the General for having signed an alliance with Russia. They assert that he did much harm to the country by his chaotic and contradictory program of social and economical reforms. In many a proclamation he declared that he would defend private property. He outlined a corporative system weirdly close to that of Pétain. Yet at the same time, he started the nationalization of French industries.

This They Can't Forgive de Gaulle

But one thing above all many a man and woman in France will neither forget nor forgive, and that is the manner in which de Gaulle abandoned the nation at a critical moment. They thought that a good captain does not desert the ship in a storm.

Three years ago an immense majority of Frenchmen would have admitted wholeheartedly that de Gaulle was the only solution to France's problems; today opinions vary widely on this point.

Taking everything into consideration, and notably the Communist opposition, is there still a chance for him to seize power? Perhaps there is. Thiers declared in 1877, referring to General Boulanger the famous "man on horseback": "It is not Boulanger who is dangerous: it is the dissatisfaction of the people".

The same thing might be said today: the principal strength of de Gaulle lies in the weakness and the mistakes of the republican leaders.

Would de Gaulle's accession to power solve the French problem? Many believe it would. Others are less credulous. They fear a general strike, or even a civil war if de Gaulle becomes Chief of State and attempts to dissolve the Communist party and to remodel the trade-unions on the syndicate principle. They also think that de Gaulle would be a dubious supporter of the Atlantic Pact.

Let us hope that the gods will choose to bring stability to this unfortunate but great nation by less dangerous means.

—French Information Service

ANOTHER CRISIS: *A crowd waits outside the Palais Bourbon while the French parties flounder for three weeks forming a new government.*

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Skeletons in Combines Closet?

The McGregor Flour Report, a Study in Wartime Controls and Postwar Embarrassment

by Michael Barkway

MR. FRED McGREGOR at the age of 61 is what he has always been, energetic, conscientious, devoted and unassuming. Most of his life has been given up to his job as Combines Commissioner and to his conviction that competition must be free if our society is to remain free. To this day—in spite of all that Donald Gordon can say on the other side—he believes that there was an unlawful combine in the flour-milling industry between 1936 and 1947.

His reasons cover 120 pages of the Flour Report which Mr. Stuart Garson published early this month—ten months after the law required it to be published, ten days after Mr. McGregor's resignation and more than two years since the investigation was started.

This last point is important because it is now doubtful whether anybody could be prosecuted for the events alleged in the report. Some lawyers say that the Criminal Code provision forbidding prosecutions more than two years after the alleged offence would not apply in this case; but it is a highly contentious point.

What the report seeks to establish is that the flour-milling industry operated an illegal combine before the war and continued it during the wartime control period. It is true that under controls the mills could not make more than a standard profit. It is true that if prices had been reduced below the ceilings the cost of subsidies would have been increased. But what the Combines Commissioner can't get over is that the milling industry continued to make elaborate arrangements to keep prices up and to eliminate competition. "Such joint action," says his report, "was neither required nor sanctioned by the Prices Board or any other Government agency".

In order to satisfy himself of this before he started the investigation,

FRED McGREGOR: *Resignation.*

Mr. McGregor consulted Kenneth Taylor, then Chairman of the Prices Board, and with Mr. Taylor's consent he made a search of the WPTB's files. Then he proceeded to amass the evidence of which a small sample appears in the report laid on the Justice Minister's desk on December 29, 1948.

A few days later the new minister, Mr. Stuart Garson, came to take up his duties. By January 13, according to the Combines Act, the report should have been published. Mr. Garson knew "no more of the matter than of the state of affairs in Siam". The Minister who did know all about wartime controls was Mr. C. D. Howe. He took the report when Mr. Garson presented it to Cabinet, and he was shocked. He showed it to Max Mackenzie, his Deputy Minister and formerly Vice-Chairman of the WPTB. Mr. Mackenzie spoke to Donald Gordon.

Their unanimous reaction—Howe, Mackenzie and Gordon (though Gordon did not see the report at this time) —was that throughout the control period the flour-millers had been carrying out the policy of the Government and that it would be a disgraceful breach of confidence to "pillory" them now.

Mr. Garson passed on these views to Mr. McGregor. But neither then nor at any time did he ask Mr. McGregor to change *his* views. To do that, Mr. Garson thought, would be to invade the proper sphere of Mr. McGregor's responsibility.

So the matter went to the Cabinet for decision. Here is the situation ministers faced. The law required them to publish the report: no "ifs, ands or buts" in the law. If they did publish, the millers might — probably would — challenge the Government to prosecute. They couldn't refuse such a challenge. But they would have gone into court with some ministers and key senior officials on the side of the

—James Lynch

C. D. HOWE: *He was shocked.*

accused. And, after the Barlow judgment in the dental supplies' case, it seemed doubtful if they could even have got their evidence into court.

When these two arguments were presented to Parliament by Mr. Howe and Mr. Garson, they seemed contradictory. At the time they seemed to Cabinet ministers two equally compelling reasons against publication. The decision to ignore the law was a deliberate Cabinet decision.

On February 28 Ontario's Court of Appeal gave its judgment upholding Mr. Justice Barlow in the dental case. The Government set out to remove at least the legal handicap under which it was suffering. Mr. McGregor wanted three amendments; and they are the three which were presented to Parliament this month. He did not want any of the suggestions which came to him from ministers, and he was particularly shocked by these three which in his view would have taken the heart out of the Combines Act. They were:

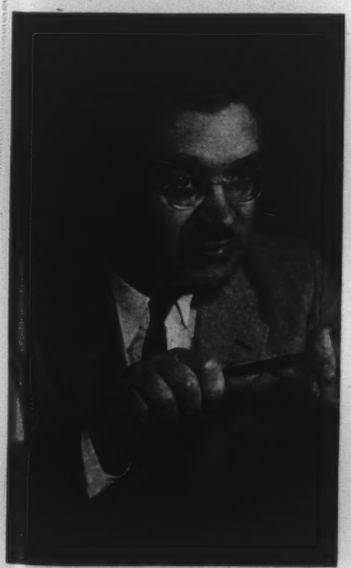
1. To take away the Commissioner's authority to start investigations.
2. To stop the automatic publication of the Commissioner's reports.
3. To provide for exemption from the Combines Act for certain types of price agreements approved by the Cabinet.

The ministers yielded, with a hint that they might come back to these ideas later on. But there was no time to amend the Combines Act in the last session, once a June election was decided on.

In September Mr. Garson came back to it. He talked to Kenneth Taylor, and he sent the report to Donald Gordon, who now saw it for the first time. Mr. Gordon immediately dictated a blistering memorandum, the substance of which—in modified form—was the statement that Mr. Howe later presented to Parliament.

Mr. McGregor was shown this fierce attack on what he had done; and on October 22 there assembled in Mr. Garson's room in the Parliament buildings, Donald Gordon, Kenneth Taylor and Fred McGregor.

Donald Gordon insisted with all the force of which he is capable—and



—Malak

DONALD GORDON: *No time.*

—CP

STUART GARSON: *Two arguments.*

that, as they say, is "quite something"—that the investigation into the millers' wartime activities should never have been started; that they had had assurances that they would be protected against proceedings under the Combines or any other act; that even to publish the report would be to double-cross them.

The reply, in substance, was this: the wartime regulations exempted from the operation of the Combines Act (or any other statute) action taken under an order of the Prices Board. An "order" was defined. Some industries, notably pulp and paper, insisted on getting formal orders to cover everything they did. The flour-millers got no such orders—not even written authorizations.

To which Mr. Gordon answered, in substance: "Good heavens, we didn't have time to fuss around with formal orders. Certainly the millers were worried about the Combines Act. They told me so; and I told them not to worry. All they had to do was to get on with the job and hold the ceilings."

If this was an "assurance" it can be proved only by the memories of the two or three people concerned. Two occasions are recalled when such conversations took place. But there may have been others.

In any case, Mr. Gordon is positive that the whole atmosphere in which the wartime controls were operated justifies the millers in claiming that they had Government approval for what they did.

This raises an unexplained query: if no conspiracy was called for, why is there such an air of conspiracy about the documents quoted in the McGregor report?

Is the evidence "twisted"? The millers say "Yes". The Combines Department says the report is scrupulously fair and many damning admissions were left out.

Were the wartime proceedings, then, a superfluous relic of illegal pre-war practices? No minister would give the flour-millers a general absolution. But they could hardly be prosecuted in 1949 for pre-war practices unless continuity could be established. And, say ministers, we couldn't prosecute for what they did during the control period without calling Mr. Gordon a liar.

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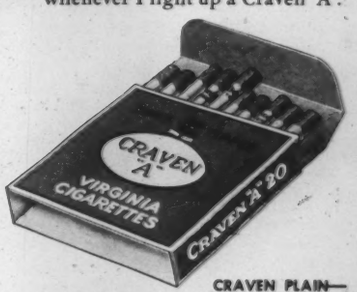

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LIFE - FIRE CASUALTY

Grey Cup, East or West?

Since 1935, the Cup Has Gone West Three out of Five Times.

by Kimball McIlroy

WHO'S GOING to win the Grey Cup?

During the first week of November, rugby haruspices had a wide choice: Calgary Stampeders and Saskatchewan Roughriders in the west, Montreal Alouettes, Ottawa Roughriders, Hamilton Tigers, and Sarnia Imperials in the east.

All these clubs (if we localize Saskatchewan to Regina, and assume that Alouettes are direct descendants of the old M.A.A.A. outfits) had taken part at one time or another in East-West contests, with varying success. The record:

	W	*L*	*Per Cent*
Argos	7	0	1.000
Queen's	2	0	1.000
Montreal	1	0	1.000
Calgary	1	0	1.000
B. Beach	1	0	1.000
Sarnia	1	0	1.000
Tigers	3	1	.750
Winnipeg	3	7	.300
Ottawa	1	3	.250
Regina	0	7	.000
Edmonton	0	2	.000

By the late evening of November 12, the day after Remembrance Day, the situation had changed materially. In the west, Calgary had passed to a six-point lead over Regina in their first meeting, then seen that lead dwindle to two points toward the end of the second game, right at home in Calgary. With minutes to go, Regina attempted a game-winning placement from the 25. It was low, but no lower than Stampeder spirits when the referees called a Calgary offside. Another try, from the 20. It was low, too, and went for an unimportant single.

Stampeders 22, Roughriders 21, on the round. Close, but no ceegar. The Stamps could, for the second successive year, start packing for an extended stay in distant parts.

Survival of Fittest

In the east, things were almost as tense. Ottawa Roughriders (someone should get a copyright on that name) had lost one game in the regular Big Four season, by one point. They lost another game, in the first round of the playoffs, by a chilling 15 points. Astonished but not dismayed, the Ottawas went after the Alouettes in the return encounter. They moved right up to within three points of the Montrealers and then, like the King's horses, they moved right back again. Too much Cunningham and McCance and too little Golab. Montreal won the second game too.

Meanwhile, Tigers and Sarnia were heaving at each other on successive days. This feat of endurance paid off for the Tigers, but wore down the lighter and more youthful Imperials who, along with Balmy Beach, are the only all-Canadian aggregation still in the annual running for the all-Canadian championship.

The Imperials went over and around the Tigers in Sarnia, and then ran plumb out of steam in Hamilton. The Tigers' grim, uphill fight won them the ORFU title and lost them playing-coach Merle Hapes, erstwhile running mate of Montreal's Frank Filchock.

So, as game time for the eastern final approached in Montreal on the afternoon of November 20, three teams still had their sights fixed on the Grey Cup. Only two of them could get in there to play off for it, and only one of them could win it. Which would it be: the East, or the West?

For more than a decade after 1921, when the prairie-dwellers first ventured east, this question bothered nobody at all. The real question each autumn was: how badly will the West be beaten? It was 23-0 that first year, when Edmonton Eskimos met Toronto Argonauts. In 1922 the Edmontons changed their name but not their luck, the Elks losing 13-1 to Queen's. The following season it was 54-0 for the collegians over Regina. Contemplating this masterpiece of the scorekeeper's art, the westerners stayed home for a year. During the next decade, they played eight times and lost eight times, a fine record for consistency but a poor sort of a morale builder.

The boys didn't give up hope. There was always the law of averages. And the law went into effect in 1935. That year it was Winnipeg Blue Bombers playing at Hamilton. The Winnipeg kick-off was short and Bert Oja fell on it. Before the Tigers could get organized, Bob Fritz had passed to Bud Marquart for a touchdown. Another pass gave them another touchdown, but Hamilton whittled away at the lead until it was only two points. At that moment it was the West's little Fritz Hanson who stepped into the limelight, and into rugby history, by taking a punt at his own 40 and going all the way through a broken field for the score that sewed up the game.

—CP

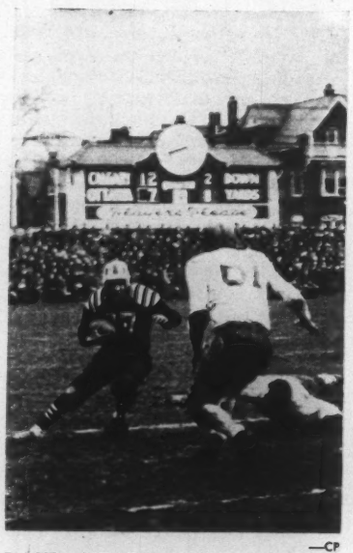
AGING, *though ageless, McCance.*

Since memorable 1935, the West has done pretty well, winning three and losing five, two of the latter by single points. The Calgary squad which trots out to the turf of Toronto's Varsity Stadium on November 26 won't be the traditional underdogs who came east for so many years.

They will be, in fact, defending champions, a dizzy height to be achieved by a western club on its first jaunt east. They made this initial journey only last year, fans will recall, with plenty of cowboy hats and little reserve strength, to meet a powerful Ottawa aggregation which was short on the former but very long on the latter.

The Roughriders proved to be very strong and powerful and sound asleep, so sound asleep that they allowed Calgary to pull the old sleeper play on them. This was something, in an East-West final, but it wasn't all. by any means. After getting that touchdown back, the Ottawas politely allowed a fumbled ball to roll about until a grateful Calgary end picked it up and trotted most of the way to the goal-line with it. The ensuing major was enough to win the game.

And so, for the fourth time in recorded history, westward went the Grey Cup, a bit of silverware donated as long ago as 1908 by the Governor General, Earl Grey, to go to the team which each Fall won the amateur rugby championship of Canada. From 1908 until 1921, that meant in effect the championship of Ontario and Quebec, but in 1921 the western teams became affiliated and the CRU took over the Cup and its attendant headaches.

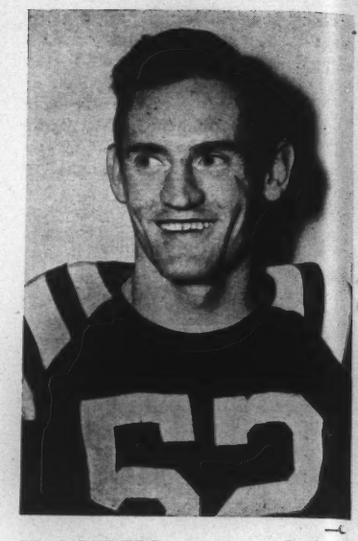


—CP

LAST YEAR, *Calgary won it.*

But let's get back to Delormier Park, in Montreal, where Alouettes and Tigers met last week-end to settle the issue of a contender to represent the east. Unfortunately for Hamilton's gallant Tigers, things went pretty much as the experts had predicted. Alouettes passed and ran the almost defenceless Tabbies right into the muddy ground, to the tune of 40-0.

So, for the Grey Cup in 1949, it's Calgary Stampeders versus Montreal Alouettes. Let's see how the two teams shape up.



STAMPEDERS *top scorer: Grahan..*

For Calgary, Keith Spaith, quarterback and passer, is one of the best in the business. To catch his passes there are two imported ends: Woody Strode, a hold-over, and Sugarfoot Anderson. Both run to 220 pounds, and run fast. Home-grown Vern Graham, a placement-kicker, was the season's top scorer. Veteran Paul Rowe and Pete Thodos, who scored the winning touchdown in 1948, are still around. Added to a good line are centres Mel Wilson from Winnipeg and Doug Turner from Argos, and an ex-pro named Riley Matheson, unanimous all-star choice.

Take Your Pick

Alouettes will suffer from the loss of plunger Bronco Reese and end Chuck Anderson (Calgary, '48) through the import rule. Filchock can more than match Spaith's passes, but his receivers are woefully short in stature though not in ability.

A good line features imports Trawyck, Keys, and Gladchuck. Virgil Wagner and Bob Cunningham should run off-tackle considerably better than any of the Stampeder backs, and the aging though ageless Ches McCance (who caught a touchdown pass in the Tiger game) can match Graham in the toe department.

To sum up, Montreal looks slightly the better on paper. Though neither club has an adequate assortment (24 men may be played in a Grey Cup game) of satisfactory reserves, Alouettes have the best of the meagre lot.

Still, there are a number of intangibles which must be taken into consideration. For example, the Stampeders will go into the game with a full two weeks' rest, Alouettes with just five days.

Of course, only the incorrigible spendthrift is going to wager good money on a rugby game between two evenly-matched clubs, so long as the ball remains oval instead of round. Footballs bounce in the oddest ways, especially when your team drops them. But, even though a cold and unprejudiced man-to-man comparison of the two contestants unquestionably gives an edge to Montreal, we'll have to play the hunches and answer our title question with the one word: Calgary.

SATURDAY NIGHT Portfolio

world affairs

WITHOUT ILLUSION

AN UNNAMED diplomat in Washington is credited with the comment that "to solve the Russian problem it has become necessary to revive the German problem"; and Field Marshal Wavell has stated in Ottawa that the Germans are a greater menace than the Russians.

There must have been many who had that old familiar feeling last week, "isn't this where we came in?", as they read of the virtual ending of dismantling in Germany, the proposal that the Americans should lend the French money to invest in German heavy industry, and the discussion among Western military leaders of the formation of a "small" German Army.

Add Mr. Acheson's visit to Bonn and his remarks about it being a "pleasure and a privilege" to meet the leaders of the new West German State, and does it not all look like a news-reel of the 'twenties played over again?

What We Can Believe

This is not an impression which will be lightly brushed away. Certainly it is not safe to believe that the German people have changed their character, formed any real attachment to democracy, or even gained any real understanding of it as yet. Even less can we count on any solid German attachment to our cause.

All that we can safely believe is that the present Government of Western Germany is as Western-minded a regime as we could expect at the present. They are nevertheless Germans, and mostly German conservatives; and we should expect them to try, in the German tradition, to extract concessions from us in every way possible and exploit these to restore German sovereignty and strengthen the German position in Europe.

From every indication, the Western leaders who have taken such sweeping moves in German policy in the past fortnight are fully aware of all this. They are attempting, not to emulate our blundering policy after the First World War, but to avoid its mistakes by maintaining a united Allied front, creating the best possible conditions for the present moderate Bonn regime to develop in, and avoiding policies which would contribute to the rise of a new German militarism.

In doing this, they are trying to take account of an entirely different European situation from that of 25 years ago. With all respect to Earl Wavell, it is clearly their opinion that it is the Russians and not the Germans who are the greater menace today; and that the greatest possible menace would be a Russo-German combination.

The goal of our policy, ever since it became clear that the Russians would not cooperate with us in achieving a sound German settlement but instead were intent on winning full control of that country, has been to prevent such a combination—in our Berlin defiance last year, even at the risk of war.

Any unemotional view of our German policy must take this goal into full account, and must consider that Germany, after this war, is a heavily-bombed, wholly-occupied country, divided into three parts, kept without a government for four years, and pinned on two sides by the great new rival military powers, the Soviet Union and the United States.

The Germany we are "courting", or—more accurately—attempting to integrate safely into Western Europe, comprises only half of the territory of the former Reich, is crowded with ten million destitute refugees from the lands beyond the Oder seized by Russia in the name of Poland, and is held in check by the combined military power of Western Union and the Atlantic Pact backed by the United States, as well as by a deep fear of being overrun by the "Asiatic hordes" which now stand, at one point, within 90 miles of the Rhine.

—Brandel

HIGHLY NATIONALISTIC *Socialist is Kurt Schumacher, leader of German SPD. He opposes many aspects of Chancellor Adenauer's policy of negotiation with West.*

A "SMALL" GERMAN ARMY?

IT IS the Russians who could really revive the German problem, by withdrawing the Red Army into Western Poland (the appointment of Soviet Marshal Rokossovsky as head of the Polish forces indicates that the Soviets intend to make this their western military frontier).

Western Union military leaders are said to have discussed the formation of a "small" German Army of five to seven divisions, or roughly the size of the Reichswehr permitted to Germany at Versailles, because they don't believe Western Europe could be defended against a Soviet push without German manpower. But it is not politically feasible to carry out such a proposal at present, as the prompt denials by Truman and Acheson that it has even been discussed, indicate. It could not possibly gain French or Benelux acceptance.

No doubt the Russians, after their experience of 1941-45, fully appreciate the risks of allowing Germany to have her own army again. But if they considered that their new position, straddling Eastern and Central Europe with their vast military power, gives them full security for many years to come; and if they believed that such a move would upset the Allied plans for integrating Germany with the West, and, as they doubtless suspect, for developing her military potential for the West in due time, they might decide to take what they considered a lesser risk.

Consider how they could do this. They could withdraw from Eastern Germany across the Oder, leaving behind their Communist-indoctrinated "People's Police" and the newer *Bereitschaften*, which appear to be the nucleus of an army. Through their East German puppets they would then raise a big cry for the evacuation of Allied forces from Western Germany.

They might figure that they could not lose on this, however things turned out. If we refuse to evacuate, nationalist, anti-Western sentiment would be strengthened in Western Germany and would block our "schemes" for integrating Germany into the Western orbit. If the Bonn leaders—who say in private that they wouldn't want to see the Western forces withdrawn just yet—refused to take up the cry for evacuation, they might be overthrown by the more extreme nationalists with similar embarrassment to us. So the Soviets may reckon.

—Fitzpatrick in St. Louis Post-Dispatch

IS THIS *an argument for a German Army? Some experts are saying that, with Soviets no longer so readily restrained by threat of our bomb, they must be contained by strong force in Europe, including Germans.*

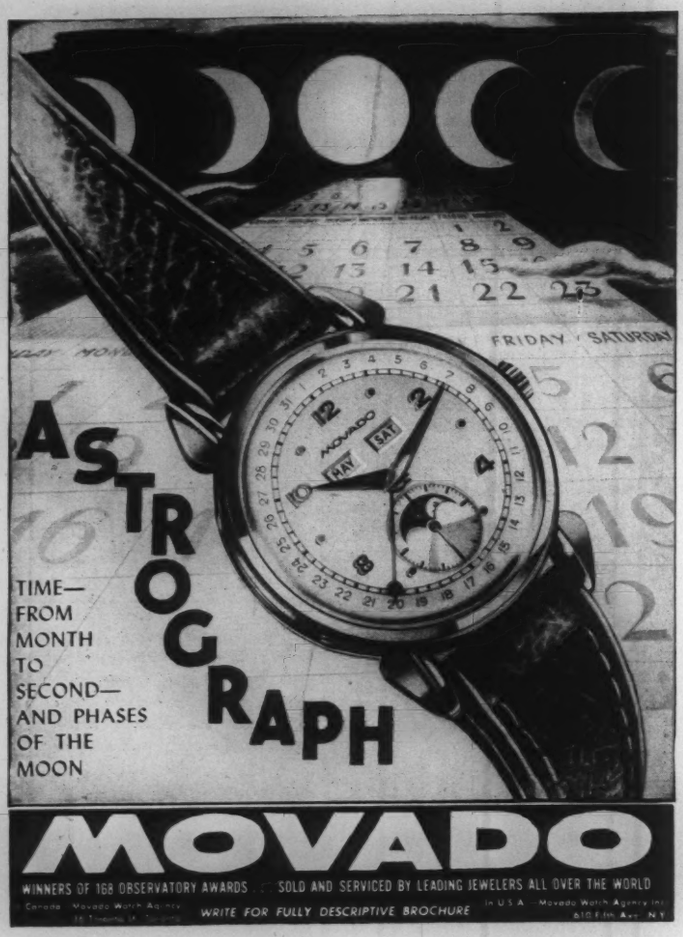
But would the West Germans react in this way? It is possible that the apparent opportunity to reunite Germany by helping the dissatisfied population in East Germany overthrow the Pieck puppet régime, would sweep away all moderate judgment in West Germany. Yet the very fact that it was the German Communists and the Moscow Radio which were heading the campaign for evacuation by the West would be bound to give the West Germans second thoughts.

Surely the line they would take would be to bargain with the West for the formation of a "small" German Army as a security force, *before* the evacuation of our troops. Unfortunately, something like this is all too likely to happen.

VULNERABLE BASE

DETAILS of the setting up of a Russian naval base in Albania were given in SATURDAY NIGHT some months ago, when the Soviets sailed their share of the Italian Navy there. This question has now become the latest international sensation. It is said that old Italian fortifications on the Island of Saseno, outside the fine harbor of Valona and dominating the mouth of the Adriatic, have been greatly strengthened, and pens for 50 to 60 submarines provided.

Since the defection of Tito and the failure to conquer Greece, and with Albania itself under very shaky control, Russian possibilities of developing this base into a serious threat to all sea traffic in the Mediterranean have become much more limited. With air passage across hostile Yugoslavia and sea passage through the Turkish Straits the only Russian links with Albania today, the Western powers have an opportunity to limit this development still further.



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U.S. affairs

TRUMAN RIDES HIGH

NO ONE probably realizes better than Harry Truman how one's stock can fluctuate in the public estimation. During the mid-term 1946 election it was at the lowest point on record. But even before the New York election returns came in recently, it was evident that the President's political stock had attained a new high level.

A full year has passed since he returned to Washington after demonstrating that he could win a presidential election in his own right—and virtually by his own effort. He was no longer merely the political heir of Franklin D. Roosevelt.

While the next presidential election is still far off in 1952, the voters are beginning to give considerable attention to the possibilities for that year. The desperate battle of Senator Taft for re-election in 1950, to be in line for the GOP candidacy, and the determined effort of the trade unions to defeat Taft and support Truman, have brought the next presidential race directly into the news.

There is still some conjecture as to whether President Truman will run in 1952, although the accepted view at this writing is that he virtually will be compelled to run, for lack of a Democratic alternative.

The President himself has hinted at various times that he might not be in the race. A close associate said after last year's election that Mr. Truman might not want another term. At a White House correspondents' dinner he said that White House repairs were being made "so the next man can go in without any trouble." He told teenage girl callers that he couldn't make appointments five years hence because that would be after his term expired.

When asked point-blank if he intended to run again, the President has laughed, however, and said he would answer the question when the time was ripe.

DEWEY ELIMINATED?

AS INNER political circles see it, Governor Thomas E. Dewey was carried down to defeat along with his candidate John Foster Dulles, in the recent New York State senatorial fight. This is taken to mean the end of any further presidential hopes for the unsuccessful 1944 and 1948 candidate.

One of his rivals for the nomination on both occasions, Harold Stassen, appeared with a well-timed speech before the National Press Club in Washington right after the voting, to indicate that he would be back in the race. Governor Driscoll of New Jersey, who won re-election in a fight which saw the final eclipse of the notorious Hague machine, is coming in for some attention. Senator Taft is turning his formidable campaign in Ohio into an open bid for nomination and election as president in 1952.

But a great many Republicans turn with more yearning than ever towards Dwight Eisenhower, as possibly the one figure who could provide sufficient personal appeal and popularity to overcome the general lack of appeal of the party's policies and its Congressional record.

They thought they saw political implications in Eisenhower's Kansas City declaration for individual freedom a few weeks ago, as this could be fitted into their anti-Welfare State campaign. They noted that this lifelong soldier cast his first ballot in the Lehman-Dulles contest this month. But they are baffled over the fact that Eisenhower registered for this election as "without party affiliation."

—Berryman in Washington Star

STILL *going their way for 1950: it might take an Eisenhower to reverse trend to centralized control in 1952.*

"Ike" is not exactly bidding for the job. He would probably have to be strongly convinced of the nation's danger, before accepting the nomination. He would certainly prove difficult for the party managers to "handle." But what a candidate he would make!

STILL SAME CONGRESS

EXHILARATING as the Lehman and other congressional victories may have been to President Truman they fail to alter the fact that his Administration will be up against much the same Congress when it tries to push the Fair Deal program through the second session of the 81st Congress in the New Year.

Democrats proudly assert that the gain of a senatorship in New York State and the election of two more Democratic Congressmen have "renewed the Truman mandate." But a mandate doesn't necessarily get legislation through Congress. For that you need strong and clear voting majorities.

President Truman has no illusions that the Republican-Southern Democratic bloc has dissolved. The Civil Rights issue will remain as much of an obstacle to the passage of Truman legislation as it was when the 81st session opened last January.

Admitted that the Trumanites made a good start, the fact is that final action on the toughest issues was postponed. Sixty-four of the 96 Senate votes are required under the cloture rule to shut off marathon debate and it will be a miracle if these can be obtained.

science

ASTRO FOR TYROS

"THE STARS Are Yours," by James S. Pickering (Macmillan's, $4.75) is an interesting book packed with statements about the stars. It has a useful bibliography, index and table of contents as well as a good appendix, or "deneb," of 45 pages. The plates, which number 23, deserve special mention for their quality.

One chapter of the appendix describes vividly an imagined high speed voyage through our own galaxy, then on to the nebula in Andromeda and even beyond. It serves as a review of the book and is reminiscent of the dramatic discourses given at New York's Hayden Planetarium.

The author promises that the discussion will be "painless" and without mathematics or involved arguments. And the promise is kept.

The style is simple, clear and conversational with a tinge of humor here and there: "Go out of doors and look up at the sky. The stars . . . are all moving. . . Let's have a go at them."

The first 75 pages give a systematic recital of ideas and conclusions, some of which the author says have been "dinned" into us in school.

To an enquiring mind the absence of argument may be unsatisfactory. "The earth's nearest neighbor is the moon" says the book. It might be well worth while to show in a few painless words how the conclusion was reached.

Such explanatory additions could disclose method, give confidence when more complicated arguments are omitted to save space and avoid pain. The material of this section could not be gained by looking at the stars without benefit of instruments.

At page 76 the book takes the reader outdoors and indicates how to locate Polaris, the North Star, by means of the well-known "pointers," Dubhe and Merak, two stars in the bowl of the Dipper.

Then follow, in 130 pages, 24 good stars charts made by the author and discussed, not as a catalogue, but as a pleasant introduction to a group of friends, some of whom we already know.

By persistent observation and study, with the help of the book, the reader could certainly come to know those stars seen by the naked eye. There is no doubt that anyone following this course and interesting himself in astronomy will be deeply indebted for the rest of his life to the author. If ever he learns how all the conclusions in the book are reached, he will be an astronomer indeed.

BULLETIN 61

THE PURPOSE of Bulletin 61 of the Department of Mines and Resources is primarily utilitarian. Called "Native Trees of Canada" its purpose is to help any citizen, whether gardener, lumberman, botanist or layman, to identify and become more familiar with the trees he sees. It has, however, aesthetic and cultural values, for the beauty and strength of trees cast a spell over those who work with them and study them. Its appeal therefore is quite broad.

The first edition was prepared in 1917 by Morton and Lewis and published as Bulletin 61 of the Forestry Branch of the Department of the Interior, Ottawa.

That their work was well done is seen in the fact that in three editions, 23,000 copies have gone into service and a fourth edition is now required.

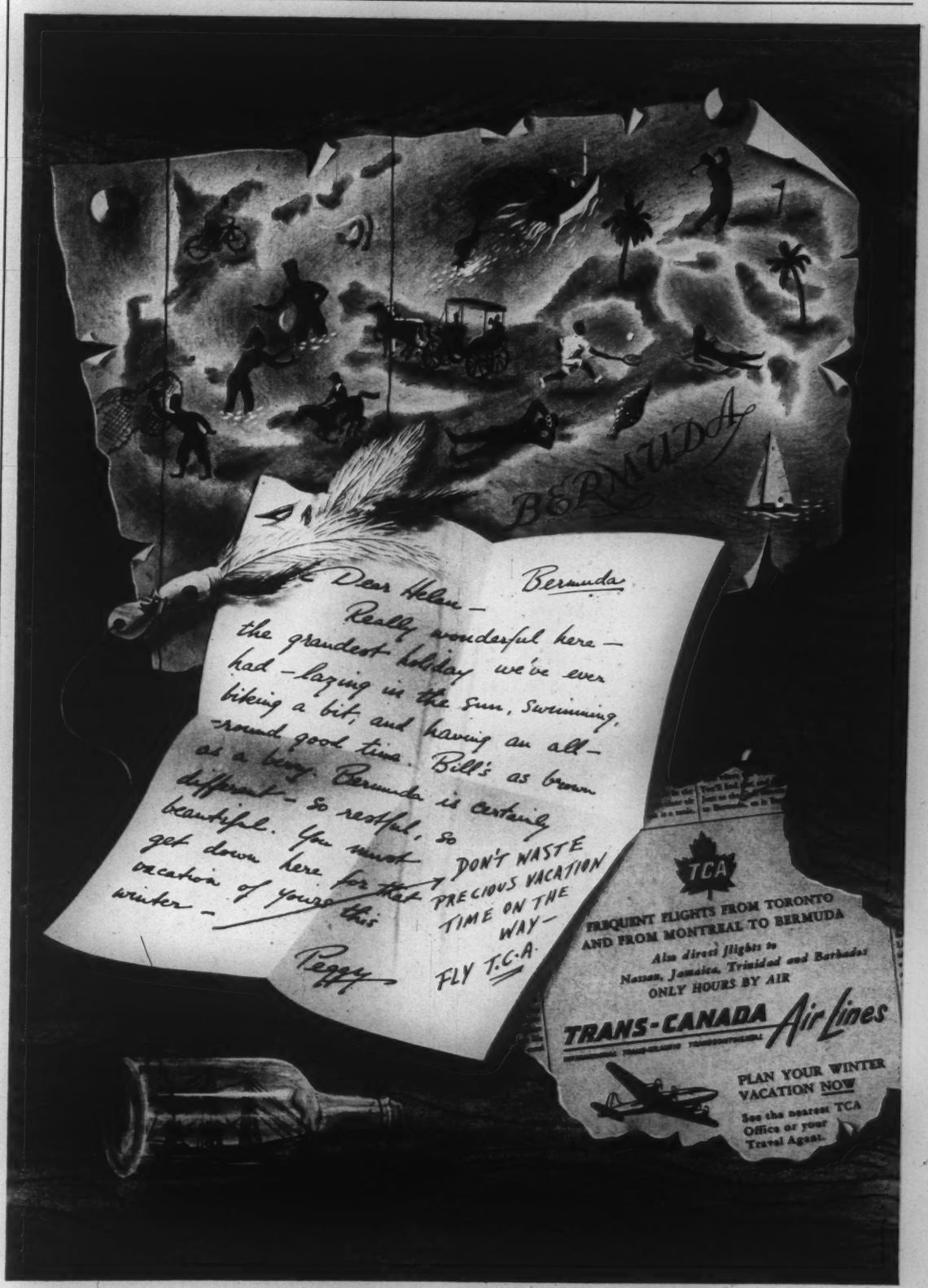
In this fourth edition the opportunity has been seized to include some improvements. It has about 120 maps each showing at a glance the range of a given species. There are also more than 180 photographs to replace the drawings of previous editions.

The book has two double-page maps of Canada, colored to show the forest classification of the country and the tree species characteristics of different regions.

The authors include a useful checklist of Canada's native trees and some shrubs. They give the common and the systematic name of each form avoiding technical terms as much as possible.

Part I devotes 84 pages to cone-bearing trees and part II, the remainder of the book, deals with broad-leaved trees, mostly deciduous. The descriptions are good and considerably detailed.

The photographs of trees, sprays, twigs, leaves, bark, buds, flowers, fruits, and seeds are in most cases good.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travel

WINTER TRAINS

RAILWAYS in Britain feel that they gave satisfaction to the flood of summer visitors but they are not resting on their laurels. With the accent switched to the stimulation of Fall and Winter travel to Britain, they are making vigorous efforts to equal the summer success with the best Winter train services seen in Britain for many years. These are already in operation and with additional and faster main line trains compared with last winter, a considerable increase in facilities for the advance booking of seats, extra restaurant, buffet and sleeping cars, the new services will ensure that the winter vacationist to Britain is just as content on his return home as the earlier summer visitor.

In all, there will be sixty-three main line trains, including expresses between London and Birmingham, York and Cambridge and on such cross-country routes as Newcastle to Liverpool. Some 314 additional Restaurant and Buffet Car services will be operating each week, and an addition of 1,700 sleeping berths will be available for passengers. There will also be a sixty per cent increase in trains on which seats may be reserved, and included in the seventy-eight named trains running daily on British Railways will be such newly named expresses as "The Northumbrian" between London and Newcastle, "The Mid-day Scot" between London and Glasgow, and "The Comet" between London and Manchester.

PASSION PLAY

WITH THE AID of a $300,000 loan, approved by United States occupation authorities, the world famous Oberammergau Passion Play — presented every 10 years before the war by the residents of the little town in the Bavarian Alps — will be resumed next year.

Thousands of religious pilgrims, expected to pass through Europe next year for the Holy Year observances in Rome, will find another point of interest in the famous Passion Play, which will be presented at thirty-one performances between May 21 and September 19. The picturesque little village is just 60 miles from Munich, regular stop on daily flights from New York to Vienna.

The play itself, given in a tremendous theatre with an open air stage, depicts the sufferings and death of Christ with moving realism. Only residents of the village of Oberammergau are in the cast of the all-day pageant which has an hour intermission for lunch. The parts remain in the same family for generations. The actors, of course, have regular occupations in the town in addition to their roles in the play. The actor who plays St. John may carry baggage from the special train run from Munich to Oberammergau to a traveller's inn.

The play was originated in 1634 by the residents of Oberammergau when the village was infested with the plague as was the rest of Bavaria. The people of the town made a vow that they would reenact the sufferings of Christ every ten years if there were no more deaths. No more villagers died and the people kept their vow.

The third performance was given in 1660 instead of 1654 and was repeated every tenth year until 1934 when a special tricentennial play was given and then further performances were suspended because of the war. The resumption of the Passion Play in 1950 has a special significance because it coincides with the Holy Year in Rome.

A BIGGER FERRY

GRAND MANAN, which claims with some justice to be the most beautiful island in Canada, wants a bigger ferry to the mainland so it can develop more tourist business.

The present boat, known as the *Grand Manan III*, has had an up-and-down history. She started as a multi-millionaire's yacht, complete with mahogany panelling and showers and bathtubs which offered a choice of hot or cold fresh water or hot or cold salt water.

When the Second World War broke out the owner, a Boston dowager, realized that the days of palatial yachts which carried a crew of thirty or forty were done and sold the vessel to the Royal Canadian Navy for $1. The navy used the craft for coastal patrol and a couple of years ago resold her, for a substantially larger sum, to the company which operates the Saint John-Grand Manan ferry service.

She still has the panelling, the showers and the tubs. Tourists lucky enough to get aboard are awed by their surroundings. But the trouble is, she can't handle more than ten or twelve cars at a trip, and in the tourist season there are usually twenty or thirty cars waiting to be transported.

Grand Mananites figure that if they had the right kind of ferry, the twenty or thirty cars would be at least forty or sixty, because their eighty square miles of tree-clad rock, near the Bay of Fundy, is like another world. There are few places like this.

Ever since Audubon, the great naturalist, wrote about Grand Manan more than a century and a quarter ago, it has been a favorite spot for visitors from the United States.

—Pan American World Airways

HOTEL IN OBERAMMERGAU

U.K. and commonwealth

AUSTRALIAN ELECTION

WITH an embattled Labor Government defending an eight-year tenure of power, and the opinion polls showing a steady swing towards the Liberals, the Australian election coming on December 10 promises a close and significant vote.

Heartened by the reception which the Leader of the Opposition, and former Prime Minister R. G. Menzies has received in Labor strongholds as well as other quarters, the Liberal

"HONEST BEN" *Chifley is being compared to Lincoln, also to Truman.*

rank and file have strengthened their wavering support for their verbally brilliant if temperamental leader.

They are now earnestly assuring the electors that Mr. Menzies, despite an excellent tailor and an educated accent, as well as a lifetime of political association with business and ranching interests, is essentially a "man of the people." To prove his respectability they cite his grandfather, a miner, and his father, who kept a country store.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Chifley, is not to be ignored, however; for him the legend of "Honest Ben" is being refurbished. Recently Mr. Chifley has been compared by Dr. Evatt to Abraham Lincoln, and by the Minister for Information and Immigration, to Mr. Truman.

All opinion seems to agree that the election will be close. Labor's serious appeal to the voter is the record of the past eight years' administration. The promised full employment has been secured. Wages have never been higher. A start has been made on the £200,000,000 electrification scheme which will harness the Snowy River and may develop into an Australian Tennessee Valley Scheme.

The Long Range Weapons Establishment at Woomera, in South Australia, a testing ground for Empire rocket developments, is growing in size, importance and secrecy, despite hypocritical Communist pleas for the rights of nomadic aborigines in the area. The vigor with which Mr. Calwell has pursued and secured immigrants may offset with electors the equal vigor with which he has pursued and deported Asiatics of many years' peaceful, if initially illegal, domicile here, regardless of their Australian wives and Australian children.

Immigrants may, however, turn out to be an election embarrassment, regardless of their value to the country. The Australians are essentially an insular people, and the immigrants from Europe's DP camps are viewed with dislike by many.

The alarming level of inflation, proportionately higher than Canada's, will tell against the Chifley administration. Recent figures put the increase in Australians' hourly earning at 120 per cent, compared with 1939. On the same basis, the U.S. increase is 118 per cent and Canada's 100. No relief from the spiral can be seen or promised.

Alarming rumors and cold facts of dearer goods due to devaluation will also be laid at the Government's door by uninformed opinion. Scarcity of many goods, particularly building supplies—another result of the 40-hour week—and the rash of industrial stoppages including the acute seven-weeks' coal strike of the late winter, will also tell against the administration.

Pricked on all sides by discomfort, restrictions, high prices and lowered living standards, the average voter may not think any further than "blame the commos", and may endorse the Liberals' loudly-announced intention of banning the Communist Party, forgetting that the last time Mr. Menzies followed the same plan, no slackening of Communist activity resulted, but rather an intensified underground effort.

Socialism Big Issue

How great a scare the socialist bogey, tricked out afresh in horrible colors, can put into electors will be seen at the polls. Preferring to take no chances, most Labor rank and file are steering well clear of doctrinaire pronouncements. Hasty hammering was heard last week on the Labor platform, as Mr. Calwell summarily buried four highly contentious questions, further socialization of industry, nationalization of banks, attitude towards Communism and rationing of petrol, with the phrase "dead issues."

Unhappily, they were quickly dug up with the enthusiasm of a terrier by his colleague and Cabinet *enfant terrible*, the Minister for Transport and External Territories, Mr. E. J. Ward, in whose firm opinion real democracy and real progress under labor policy can only be realized with a banking system completely under the control of the elected representatives of the people.

In the last election the popular vote was very close although the weight of seats was heavily in the government's favor. So perhaps this time the deciding election issue may be the minor and purely domestic one of petrol rationing. Is rationing an inevitable accompaniment of Australia's dollar shortage, and a sacrifice in the Empire's interest, or is it only an example of bureaucratic interference and governmental cussedness?

Chifley says the former, the motor industries say nay, and many motorists who have briefly tasted the joys of unlimited petrol but on November 15 must again produce their licences for two gallons or three, are likely to walk to the polls in no frame of mind to return their oppressors.

The most careful calculation of election chances could well be upset by the redistribution of the electorates to take place. The 19th Parliament, when it meets in February, will have almost twice as many members as the expiring one. There will be 123 seats in the lower House of Representatives instead of 75, and 60 in the Senate instead of 36. New South Wales will send 47 representatives where previously there were 28, and the inhabitants of the Australian Capital Territory will have a vote for the first time.

Senate Elected by PR

Election to the Senate will for the first time be on the basis of proportional representation, and experts expect a better balance in the Senate and a truer picture of public opinion. However, a Liberal Senate cannot be returned, for 15 of Labor's Senators are not due to retire until 1953, and a clean sweep by the Opposition in all States would not give them a majority.

In crowded Canberra, where diplomats join the populace in the rush for a house rumored about to become empty, or elbow their way to a packed bar, the additional members will find it a tight squeeze, and it is likely that some will be quartered in a humble workmen's hostel until more dignified quarters, now building at speed, when materials are available, are ready for them.

—United Nations

WOULD BE MISSED *from international stage if Labor lost: Dr. Evatt.*

Whether Socialist, or after eight years in the political wilderness, Liberal, the new government will not find the going easy. Inflation must be checked, and the dollar problem faced. Production must increase, whether a stick or a carrot is used to make the donkey go, and always there is the menace of a well-organized Communist minority making itself heard and felt.—*Anne Dupree.*

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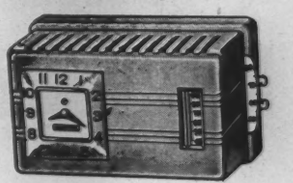

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books

THE OLD WEST

THE WAY WEST—by A. B. Guthrie, Jr. — McLeod—$4.00.

THE WRITER of "The Big Sky" tells a raw, leathery tale of a covered-wagon trek from the fever-ridden badlands of Missouri to the promised land of Oregon in the rip-roaring days of "fifty-four, forty or fight." Every member of the party has been compelled, for some very personal reason, to uproot himself from his native soil and turn his eyes to far horizons: Lije and Rebecca Evans, true pioneers who travel to find a better life for their son; the slovenly McBees, running out on their creditors; Tadlock, obsessed with the love of power for its own sake; and the Curtis Macks who were born too soon to know that they were "sexually maladjusted."

For two thousand miles the gallant party plods ahead, combatting the perils of hunger, cold, exhaustion and Indians, beset by the more insidious perils of greed and lust and hatred, until at last they sight the sturdy outlines of Fort Vancouver and the cold blue waters of Willamette.

Mr. Guthrie is one of the best of the serious chroniclers of the old West. He tells a tough, taut story, creates good flesh-and-blood characters—strong, brutal men and women, unsentimental but idealistic in a hard, practical way. And his prose—colorful, imaginative and often splendidly lyrical — is a good vehicle for the sights and sounds and adventures he describes.—*J. L. W.*

AREAS OF THOUGHT

VIRGINIA WOOLF, A COMMENTARY — by Bernard Blackstone—*Clarke, Irwin*—$3.25.

IN THIS "commentary," Dr. Blackstone, who is a lecturer in English at Swansea University College, has attempted to establish the three successive areas of thought with which Mrs. Woolf dealt in her ten works of fiction and her small output of essays and criticism. The three phases are: Love and Freedom, Marriage and Truth, The World and Reality. They are by no means sharply defined but merge into one another, the products of the author's intellectual progression as well as the changing circumstances of her life. And through them all, like a scarlet thread, runs what Dr. Blackstone calls "her essential *sensationalism*: her belief that through a direct, immediate apprehension of the thing-in-itself we get our closest glimpses of reality . . . this entranced attention to the forms, shapes, colors, feel and scents of things is for Virginia Woolf the one certain good in life."

Dr. Blackstone's analyses are penetrating and thorough and he gives Mrs. Woolf credit for being one of the really great innovators in the history of English fiction.

A detailed, exhaustive (and sometimes exhausting) study, logically pursued, richly documented and obviously intended only for very serious students of the novel, with a thorough knowledge of Mrs. Woolf.—*J. W.*

—Erich Hartmann

A. B. GUTHRIE, Jr.

BRAXIE-BRAINED

THE WONDER OF ALL THE GAY WORLD — by James Barke—*Collins*—$3.50.

WI' "THE Wonder Of All The Gay World" Jamie Barke completes three-quarters o' the task he imposed on himsel', the four-volume, romantic biography o' the pleughman-poet Rabbie Burns. First cam "The Wind That Shakes The Barley," then "The Song In The Green Thorn Tree." Wi' "The Crest Of The Broken Wave" (in preparation) he will hae feenished a tetralogy which a'thegither will be ca'd "Immortal Memory."

"The Wonder Of All The Gay World" is a' aboot Rab's stay in Embro whar the *literati* couldna dae ither than gie him the fame o' which he cam in search. Muckle licht is shed on life in Embro, an' of coorse Rab meets up (an' mates up) wi' a wheen o' sonsy lassies, but nane come close to Jean Armour. Whiles the bard is haein' words wi' his publisher, the ticht-fisted Willie Creech, an' whiles he's haein' a drap at an Embro howff wi' his cronies, but maist aften he's plannin' or practisin' houghmagandie. Lassies an' lassocks by the dizzens fa' for him. Mony a guid nicht the bard has an armfu', an' he meets a'body that maitters aboot Embro.

Later he's stravaigin' aboot the country-side making a collection o' auld Scots sangs. Sae braxie-brained is he that he can propose to Peggy Chalmers nobbut a few hours after hearin' that Jean Armour is confined for the second time. Yon sort o' thing juist wedna fash Rabbie. Howsomever, Peggie refuses to tak him, an' he daes the richt thing by Jean.

Readers o' "The Wonder Of All The Gay World" will maist likely consider it owre lang, wi' its near seven hunder pages, but if they idolize the bard wi' the "genius for paternity," nae doot they winna think it lang enough. There's a deal o' habberin' an' jabberin' an' bletherin' an' a' that. An' nae doot some readers will be wishin' for a glossary when they see things the like o' this: "Tach! a wheen silly gawkin' bitches couldna wash through a luggie o' clarty hippens!"—*J. E. P.*

theatre

TOP BILLED DIRECTOR

THREE PEOPLE helped with this report on Robert Gill, Director of Hart House Theatre, University of Toronto.

Said the Intelligence Officer at the University of British Columbia: "Robert Gill does not possess the conventional traits of a stage director. You are impressed by his youthfulness [Gill is 38] and his enthusiasm. He has the bounce and verve of a teen-ager . . . yet in some wonderful manner he can and does regularly produce plays that reach very near the pinnacle of dramatic expression."

Said the Business Manager of Hart House Theatre: "He's so patient with the kids. I've seen a student go over some piece of stage business eight times and the kid was still wrong. But finally Bob gets the effect he's after."

Said a young actress who has worked under Gill's direction: "People work for him. They'll knock their brains out for him but he has a fit if you say so. He doesn't approve of personal loyalty."

In the summer of 1946 Professor Ernest Dale and Charles Delafield of

—Gordon Jarrett

FOR GILL *they'll get it right.*

the Board of Syndics of Hart House Theatre went to Woodstock Playhouse, N.Y., to see Robert Gill in summer theatre action. The Board's choice of a director for the university theatre had narrowed to Gill. "It was a terrible dress rehearsal they saw," Gill says. "Heaven alone knows why they decided to take me."

But then Bob Gill is never happy about his productions prior to actual first night curtain. On opening nights he sits at the back of the theatre making notes. Just before the final scene he escapes to the seclusion of his office until the cast's congratulatory friends have departed. Then he has a short post-mortem on stage.

By this time Gill is near exhaustion. His nervous energy drives him constantly; during rehearsal month before each play, he eats, sleeps and thinks production. For recreation he takes in the odd movie and an occasional theatre matinee. He's not married—probably never found the time.

But Gill doesn't drive the actors to the same degree. "Students are at University for an education," he says. "They have to study." He works out a tight rehearsal schedule to cut down unnecessary waiting around. In spare time he designs the sets. He has a profound knowledge of the intricacies of scenery and lighting but is completely baffled by the mechanism of a stubborn cigarette lighter. He has an amazing background of classics, modern revues and theatre lore. Shaw, Shakespeare, Chekhov are favorites.

Bob Gill was born in Spokane, Washington, but all his father's people come from around Orillia, Ont. During high school he worked backstage in the local little theatre. Fond of opera, Gill has taught himself a number of arias—in a not unpleasant tenor but in no stage voice. Occasionally a student waiting in his office will hear a burst of Italian rolling down the hall: it's Gill letting off steam.

Even at Carnegie Institute of Technology, Pittsburg, his interest veered theatrewards. At graduation (1933) he received the Otto Kahn Award for Acting. A spate of radio in Philadelphia—announcer and producer—was followed by his MA at Carnegie and a Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship to the Cleveland Playhouse. He has also been on the teaching staffs of Cleveland Playhouse, Carnegie and Pittsburgh Playhouse—the last two concurrently for three years.

"In fact," says Gill, "I've done a bit of everything except rodeo." But he doesn't believe students should go in for a similar highly specialized college training in theatre. He limits a student's participation to two major roles in any one year.

Bob Gill has his little stage idiosyncrasies: being superstitious about applause at dress rehearsals; being a fiend about punctuality; getting a kick out of reading an absent actor's part—if he likes it (*e.g.*, the nurse's lines in "Romeo and Juliet").

His nervous energy is noticeable even in car-driving. Tucking his 5 feet 11½ inches into an Austin, Bob drives with concentration.

Two summers ago he lectured at Banff School of Fine Arts; last summer at UBC, where he did a magnificent job of "Antigone". Says UBC's intelligence officer: "In the early stages of rehearsals the casual observer would not have predicted such a [rare] performance. Mr. Gill talked to his amateur actors as a college football coach would to a green team. Magically he translated the implications of Antigone's tragedy into simple everyday terms and the tragedy lost nothing for its colloquial treatment."

Mass scenes are a Gill *tour de force.* Positions are mathematically mapped out and stage business arranged long before rehearsals start. Then he welds the actors into thinking aliveness. But he leaves something to their imagination—the mob noises.

"The university theatre," says Bob Gill, "should be educational in respect that the plays done must be of merit." But Gill's selection of plays is never purely academic. First and foremost he's a showman.—*M. E. N.*

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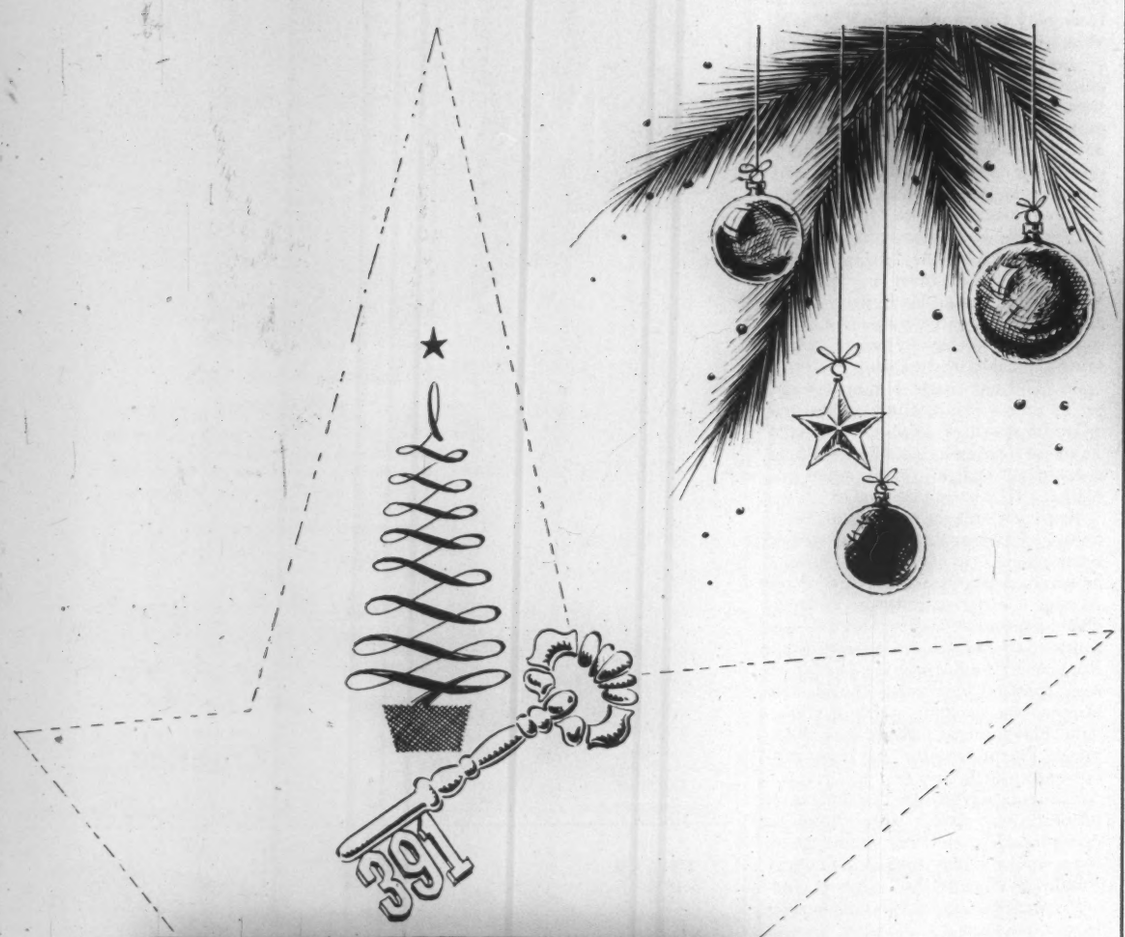

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music

—Globe-Telegram

SIR THOMAS: *Music's First Lord.*

THE BELOVED OGRE

SIR THOMAS BEECHAM, in Canada on a lecture tour about music and ballet, has probably done more than any Britisher in this century to promote British musical art at home and abroad. Between the years 1910 and 1920 he produced upwards of 120 operas of which over sixty were either new works or revivals of forgotten masterpieces. Among the new ones he introduced were "Boris Godounov" and "Der Rosenkavalier" and the extremely difficult first version of Strauss's "Ariadne auf Naxos" which he brought to England almost immediately after its debut in Stuttgart.

His concert record was almost equally brilliant: his championship of the blind composer Delius is but one instance of his work in that field. The English critic, Edward Lockspeiser called him "the Churchill of Music . . . the most loved figure in the English music world today." He also added a pertinent afterthought "The most loved and the most feared."

Well, Britain's musical baronet has lost nothing of his fire as a conductor or his wit and acerbity as a speaker, despite his 70 years. In Montreal he conducted a performance of the Berlioz Requiem in the huge ancient Church of Notre Dame, delivered a lecture on ballet, received an honorary degree from McGill University.

The performance of the Requiem —the second playing of the work in Canada, not the first as some Montreal papers claimed, (the first was by the late Dr. Fricker in Toronto's Varsity Arena ten years ago)—left critics and public breathless. It was stupendous; though both choir and orchestra might have been bigger.

The lecture on ballet covered all Sir Thomas' pet peeves. The shafts delivered in every direction were the value of the talk, for the actual lecture was the tritest of warmed up stuff, familiar to everyone. Radio, opera, English singing, and Benjamin Britten were pinked in turn, Sir Thomas pouring forth clichés, with that delicate underlining, of which he is master, turning them to sweet venom.

films

THE FIELDS REVIVAL

HAVING nothing better to do during a week of holdovers I dropped in to see the reissue of W. C. Fields' "You Can't Cheat an Honest Man" and "My Little Chickadee". Actually it would be hard to find anything better to do in almost any week.

It is difficult to choose between the two masterpieces, even when you see them side by side. "You Can't Cheat an Honest Man" contains the famous pingpong sequence, in which the great man drives his opponent to the other end of the house and finishes by playing with stunning accuracy on two pingpong tables at once. "My Little Chickadee" on the other hand is enriched by the presence of Mae West.

The Mae West-W. C. Fields collaboration was probably the strangest partnership in movie history. It was impossible for Mae West to diminish W. C. Fields and equally impossible for W. C. Fields to dim Mae West. But there is no visible conflict in "My Little Chickadee." The two great legends evolve majestically on the screen and neither yields to or excludes the other.

"Who is that vision of loveliness?" asks W. C. Fields, catching sight of Mae West at the end of the daycoach. But it isn't Mae that matters; it is the rich intoning Fields voice, the splayed white-gloved hands, the abstracted clutchings at bag, hat and umbrella as he lurches down the aisle. The Mae West turn comes a little later. "You're kind of cute yourself," she says with the tone and the look that can load any comment with the most infamous significance.

Or the two start down the length of the Western saloon, Mae twirling her parasol and her bustle and W. G. Fields fumbling in the rear, forever recapturing the stovepipe hat that is forever slipping from his large square head. Both acts are superb and neither has the slightest reference to the other.

W. C. Fields lived as few people can in a world exclusively his own. But he was always ready to throw it wide open so that the public could have the privilege and excitement of watching the great man being, exactly, himself. An audience was so much his natural medium that he couldn't live without it, yet hardly seemed aware that it existed—unlike Mae West who is deadly conscious of her public every instant. Mae doesn't conciliate, but she estimates to a hair's breadth, and her complacency in bringing off her act—"How'm I doing, Boys?"—is part of her style and triumph. But W. C. Fields neither estimated nor conciliated. He was W. C. Fields, supremely content with that status and, apparently, no more conscious of any conflict between inner and outer demands than Charlie McCarthy.

It is possible of course to grow accustomed to any phenomenon, and from this point of view the long retirement of "My Little Chickadee" has benefited the film. The sound is perhaps a little muffled but the stars themselves seem far more astonishing than they did when the production helped to wind up their separate screen careers. The current revival is as accurately timed as though Mr. Fields himself had had a hand in it.

"THE DOCTOR AND THE GIRL" restores to the screen every cliché exhausted by the Kildare series. I counted five full-dress operations during the production and there may have been others during periods when my attention wandered. Patients are constantly being wheeled on and off the screen, and the incidence is high, with two deaths out of five. By the time the fourth patient appeared in the operating room the audience had begun to titter nervously. Audience and patient got the full treatment just the same, complete with oxygen tanks and artificial resuscitation.

For those who left at this point, feeling the need of a little special oxygen treatment themselves, I may say that everything turned out fine. The bullying old medico (Charles Coburn) who disinherits his son (Glenn Ford) for marrying a beautiful outpatient (Janet Leigh) gets punished as he deserves. There are allround reconciliations, and the best traditions of the profession are upheld, with no credit (acting, dialogue, direction) to anybody.

"ADAM AND EVELYNE" takes a more cheerful line but turns out to be, strictly as entertainment, almost as depressing as "The Doctor and the Girl." This is a variation of the old Daddy Long Legs theme with Jean Simmons as the orphan and Stewart Granger as the amorous foster-father. The difficulties faced by the current orphan are: (a) her foster-father is in the gambling business, a profession she abhors and (b) she thinks he is her real father. It takes a laborious hour and a half to clear up these simple points, and we are left to draw our own conclusions about whether pictures like "Adam and Evelyne" are the explanation or the result of the present unhappy position of the British film industry.

—Mary Lowrey Ross.

—Two Cities

ADAM: *Simmons and Granger.*

I just can't save money!

That's what I used to say, and it was true.
Sometimes I'd dream of the day when I'd have time and leisure to do all the things I wanted to do, but I had to admit I wasn't doing anything about it except dream. I never seemed to be able to put anything aside.
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education

UP THEY GO

THE SCHOOL building-boom near Toronto has expressed itself in three new public schools and one collegiate. Architect C. P. Band built one at Newtonbrook ($200,000) and one at Willowdale ($275,000). Each of these two-story public schools contains eight rooms and an auditorium, the former building having a library as well. They were officially opened by Education Minister Dana Porter, as was a third public school in Lansing.

This fine one-story building (Architects, Allward and Gouinlock; cost, $275,000) has room for twelve classrooms, acoustically treated without having been plastered, and equipped with bilateral lighting. The L-shaped school is oriented on the property so that every room gets its fair share of sunlight some time during the day.

Messrs. Page and Steele were the architects who planned and built the beautiful Forest Hill Collegiate, at a cost of $1,350,000. Formally opened by Prime Minister Leslie M. Frost, it will accommodate 850 pupils in 20 classrooms, four science-laboratories, an art room and a library. Visitors were impressed by the huge gymnasium with its electrically-operated partition, and the auditorium with its air-cushioned seats. Radio equipment in the collegiate makes it possible to receive programs and re-broadcast them to any room or combination of rooms.

A feature story on school-building trends will appear in SN, Dec. 6.

CAN YOU READ WELL?

ACADIA UNIVERSITY, Wolfville, NS, is really doing something about reading-weaknesses, at least for those students who recognize their deficiencies and wish to take steps in the direction of their removal.

Some of the reading-weaknesses discovered in the tests administered by Acadia's Education Office include: slow rate of reading, need to re-read to get drift, inability to separate main from supporting ideas of a chapter, mistaking one word for another, inability to vary speed without neglecting essential portions, etc.

Students are invited to try the tests. No one has to do so. Once discovered, the weakness is exposed to simple remedial exercises requiring only a few minutes a week. The testing program is the result of four years of intensive research by diagnostic experts. In the past year a dozen educational institutions across the continent participated in the experiment, in which 10,636 students offered their services as guinea-pigs.

According to the Acadia *Athenaeum*, results showed that general reading ability was increased 105 per cent, and vocabulary 92 per cent. Other surveys have disclosed the uncomforting fact that one out of every five freshmen has a level of reading no better than the average pupil of Grade Eight!

RADIO PROGRAMS

THE NATIONAL Advisory Council on School Broadcasting has arranged for four Friday programs in December. The first three are Empire Exchange Broadcasts, of the type that appealed so much to teachers and students last year. They are slanted toward children of Grades 3-5.

Dec. 2—Life on a New Zealand Sheep Farm

Dec. 9—A visit to the Tower of London

Dec. 16—Christmas Down Under

The fourth, on Dec. 23, is to be a special pre-Christmas broadcast of school choral music. It will be heard from Winnipeg, featuring the Kelvin (Winnipeg) High School Choir, directed by Miss Gladys Anderson.

Don't forget "Kindergarten of the Air" daily Mondays to Fridays, for children from two-and-a-half years to six. This is a popular program, conducted by Dorothy Jane Goulding and Ruth Johnson.

■ Teachers of little red schoolhouses in Camsell Portage, Stony Rapids and La Ronge have to fly to get there. These settlements, all hundreds of miles north of Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, are so remote that the teachers receive an "isolation bonus" on top of their regular stipend.

■ Kingston's Royal Military College, training-ground for 400 cadets who hope to (and likely will) become officers in Canada's armed forces, is enjoying a million-dollar face-lifting. New buildings and renovations are expected to cost close to that sum. Defence Minister Brooke Claxton says that the RMC will be in the best shape it has ever been.

—Ontario Government

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SATURDAY NIGHT

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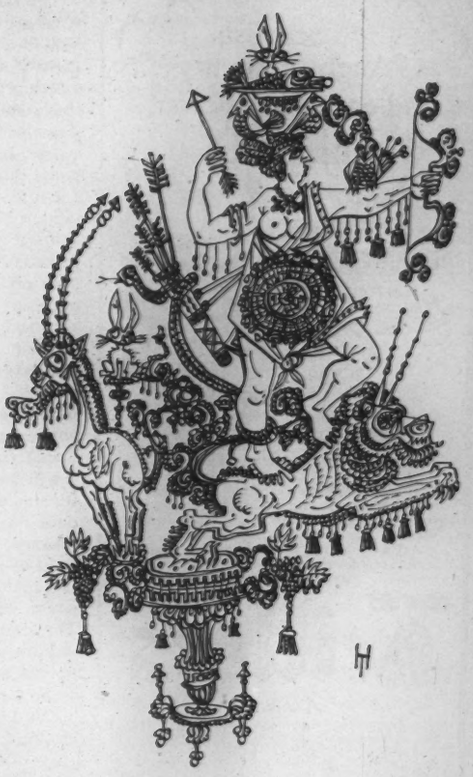


Water Under The Bridge Lamp

by Melwyn Breen

illustrated by Harold Town

A FRIEND OF MINE emerged from an auction sale the other day, the loser by a three-foot statue of Sir John A. Macdonald in damp-looking pink plaster. Since I have been for some time a connoisseur of bad taste he invited me over to look at the thing, which he felt was a classic example of the true, the ugly and the bad. It was with deep regret that I was forced to inform him that the thing was a fraud.

You see, the man who made the statue had done something to the pose of the great statesman's figure, something which gave it life; you could tell when you looked at it that he had some sense of rhythm. Because he had this he had spoiled the statue completely. It wasn't in pure bad taste. My friend had been cheated.

Now this happens to be an instance of something that has been troubling me for a lifetime. Every year millions of words are poured out by interior decorators, art dealers and collectors on the art of buying things in *good* taste. Why is it that nobody bothers to tell you how to buy things in *bad* taste? After all, 90 per cent of us are buying things in bad taste all across the country. Why isn't somebody doing something for us?

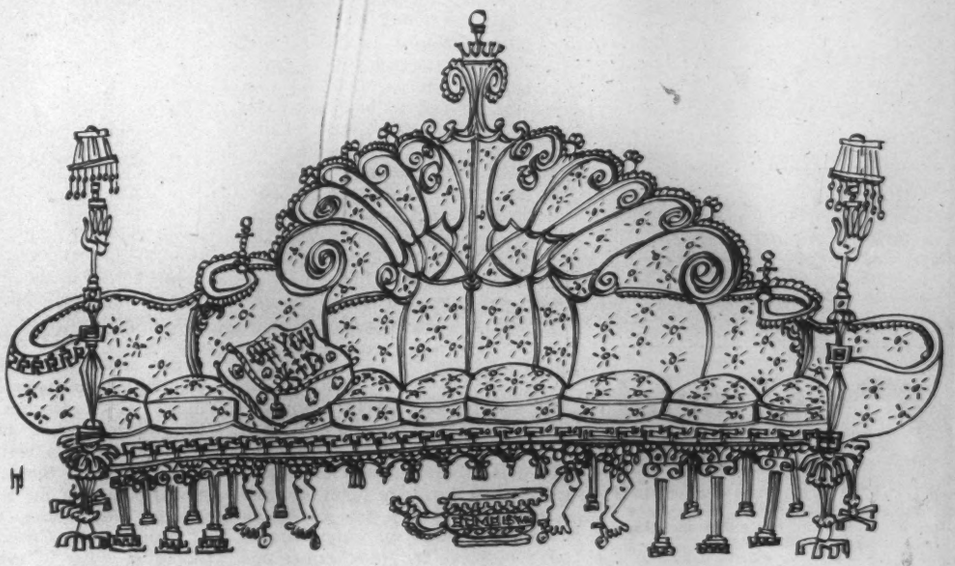
Well, I'd like to say that *I* am doing something for us. It is my desire to protect people from making purchases along the lines of the pink plaster statue with the artistic pose. I want to make sure that when you buy something in bad taste it really *is* bad. I want to make sure that your standards of bad taste are at their highest (or, if you prefer, *lowest*) possible. In this spirit I submit my findings.

I have been accumulating furniture, paintings, bric-a-brac and souvenirs in the worst possible taste for the past year, as I said. Of course I must say right off that my collection may not really be in the worst possible taste. After all, what I consider to be in the worst of taste may not be what you consider to be the worst. All I can say is that if your taste is worse than mine you must indulge me. I may not have been at it as long as you have.

My first problem, when I began, was to find a suitable place to display my stuff to its best advantage. It had to be just right and yet far enough removed from the rest of my house to prevent chance discovery by persons who were not warned about it. I've known of people—small children and old people of uncertain health—who've had a nasty turn after stumbling on a bad taste room unexpectedly. I was lucky, however, for there is a room on the third floor of my house which was ideally suitable.

It's a strange room, really. It's wedge-shaped and it's lit by a fanlight about six feet in diameter. It was a mistake on the part of the builder of our house and actually it shouldn't have been there at all. It's the result of a separation of the bedrooms flanking it by a gap of fifteen feet . . . somebody forgot to erase a line on the original plans. It was only discovered, after it was too late, by two carpenters, each of whom was at work finishing the adjacent bedrooms. It was the habit of these carpenters to swear at each other in Morse code by tapping on the wall with hammers. Well, one day each discovered that the other's execrations seemed unusually subdued and each felt that the other was prepared for a truce. When they emerged from the respective bedrooms with right hands outstretched they discovered the gap between them. At once they attempted to remedy the mistake by slanting the bedroom walls outwards which gave an illusion of largeness to the finished bedrooms and reduced the space to a wedge shape. Then they went home.

Well, what could be more useless than a wedge-shaped room, thought the family. Little did they know that one day one of their numbers would become a connoisseur of bad taste and that he'd find a wedge-shaped room a perfect place in which to keep his loot. It considerably enhances the effect of the collection: the wedge shape gives claustrophobia to visitors so badly that one of them, after only five minutes in it, still refuses to wear a double-breasted suit.



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The fanlight was a godsend too, for it meant that the room was sunny and well-lit and thus challenged my ingenuity in the purchase of drapery which would cut off even a trace of the outside. I first covered the window in four layers of netting dyed mauve, orange, chartreuse and hunting green respectively. For the side drapes I chose a heavy brocade in quilted salmon garnished with tufts of parsley-colored wool. This color combination provides a perfectly splendid clash with my wallpaper: it is an oil-finish crimson paper thickly strewn with scenes from the 1889 Chicago Exposition.

Next, the ceiling. I found it wise to remove every trace of the original plaster design in order to replace it with one of my own—the builder wasn't really trying when he covered it with bunches of grapes. I substituted for this a border of ocean waves—big ones—to a depth of two feet and then finished the remainder in successive rings of pallid cherubs riding dolphins full tilt towards a spear-headed globe which depends from the exact centre. The result is so breathtaking that visitors who are immune to claustrophobia are cut down with either *mal de mer* or the bends.

Oh yes, I almost forgot: a little ground mica mixed with the plaster gives it a wet insecure look which unnerves the most insensitive. With the dolphin-cherub motif repeated in my copper-inlaid brass firescreen, the room gives a steady effect of undulating see-sawing motion.

Of Course, a Rubber Plant

The rug I purchased from my friend with the pink plaster statue. It was in the beginning a run-of-the-mill Wilton figured in red, green and yellow. The dominant patterns are the Japanese bridges and the cherry trees closely intermingled with a secondary motif of reindeer and scenes of Lapland. Long years of service in my friend's kitchen have imparted to it a number of richly mysterious stain, while here and there patches of mange show the nap is crumbling to the touch.

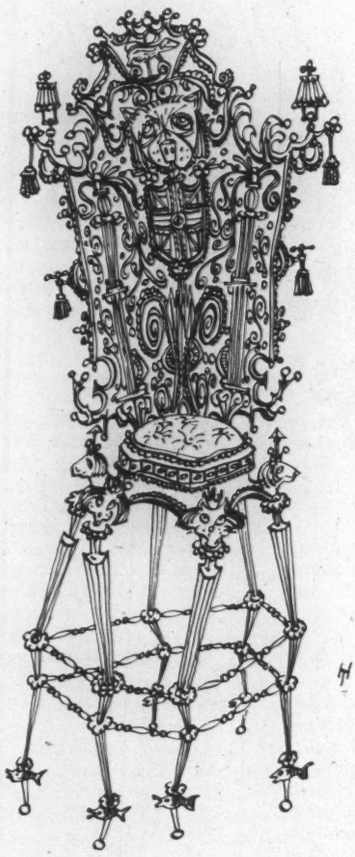
I got this object with some difficulty from my friend who, knowing how badly I wanted it, contrived to hold me up for his rubber plant. I later came to be thankful for this: I was so green as not to realize how indispensable these monsters are to any collection devoted to bad taste. He also presented me with a series of unguents, creams and salves which had served to keep it creeping down through the ages. Since these medicinals reposed in china jars inscribed with Edwardian witticisms such as "Oh You Kid!" and "Kiss Me Quick!" pricked out in alternating dots of purple and green they made a valuable addition to my collection.

Where's Morris?

My next problem was the furniture. I began with a Morris chair, a piece which is perfect for my collection since it is the most humorless object in the whole furniture field. An elephantine maze of rods, slats and lumps of wood, it deadens my room like nobody's business. Its gritty leather upholstery is capriciously split at those points upon which one depends for support and through these splits the stuffing (by a texture it must have originally come from a mastodon) puffs angrily every time one sits in it.

Added to this basic piece are five six-legged chairs (without a straight leg in the whole 30) whose globular seats are covered in red and yellow striped silk, while a sofa bebuttoned and befringed squats in gilded splendor beneath the window. Sprinkled between the chairs are three leather hassocks decorated with Mohawk Indian heads and dotted about the sofa and the Morris chair are cushions in salmon satin embroidered with "Mother" and "Duluth, Minn" and other mottoes and these things, with my glass case full of mothy owls, form the backbone of my collection.

The problem of suitable pictures is a difficult one. The only way I could decide whether to buy a picture was to try to stand and outstare it for five minutes. If I couldn't do this, it was for me. In this way I se-



cured some 43 small prints of scenes from the British classics, scenes of the London slums, the Baptist Clergyman's Day series done in ochre and a few tintypes of total strangers. Dominating the room pictorially is my huge submarine-feeling, greenish painting on the Cows in the Meadow theme which depends from a satin bow of red, white and blue. (This patriotic motif is carried across the room to my Sunday Supplement tinted photos of the King and Queen which hang above the fireplace.)

Flanking the Cows are two large ovoid portraits of my grandparents who never approved of a thing as long as they lived—and look it. The wall space left after the prints were in place is covered with framed petit-point mottoes, sheaves of fern fronds tied with watered silk, muddy photographs of last-century cricket teams, an African spear and a pith helmet. Lastly, the head of a surprisingly vicious-looking deer glares balefully from the room's farther end. Its expression convinces one that it wasn't hung up there but rather charged through the wall with such force as to be stuck in it up to its shoulders.

Blues in the Bric-a-Brac

And now for the real test of the connoisseur of bad taste: the bric-a-brac. I have seen so many collectors who were mean men on furniture, who could run rings round me in pictures but who, nevertheless, failed dismally in this, the trickiest part of the collection. I confess that there's much room for improvement in my standards but I'm working hard.

I began auspiciously with an ormulu clock, pillared and curlicued within an inch of its life, and I was fortunate in finding a statue of Diana with a spidery clock in the midriff but these, admittedly, are fairly standard equipment. Happier inspiration came when I unearthed in a pawnshop a whole platoon of Kewpie dolls dressed and accoutred as Mounties and a duo of china pug dogs who guard the fireplace in alert but haggard disgust. But my series of cockle-shells which march across the mantel-piece are not much more distinctive than the row of college pennants which fringe the upper walls like teeth in the jaws of a whale.

Finally, six globes of ruby cover my wall lamps; there are covered in turn by silk shades with serrated beards of whipcord and each lamp is the support of my shiny porcelain figurines. But this is still rather unimaginative bric-a-brac. I must say, however, that I'm improving—given another year and I will have the worst taste in Canada.

The Strait and Narrow

I had better close with a warning: there are two very great problems coincident with the collection of bad taste. In the first place the collector meets with much discouragement. He may spend a year, as I did, in the effort to discriminate the *good* bad from the *bad* bad and may manage to decorate one room with his findings. He will then find that many of his friends have been able to do a whole house like this in as little as three days! That, however, is but the hazard of the game.

The second problem: you may become fond of your collection. I did. I began spending long hours with it. Now I spend most of my time in a room whose décor provides a healthy antidote for my preoccupation with the flummery. It's clean, well-lit and the furniture is of the plainest. It is beautifully and extensively upholstered in a quilted design which muffles sound. Even the ceiling and the floor are upholstered.

And they've let me keep the rubber plant: I can't hurt myself with *that*.

FOOD:

Put in a Thumb

HERE is a fine, flavorful plum pudding. It will add a laurel or two to your culinary crown, and it is not too difficult to make.

Rich Plum Pudding

1 lb. seedless raisins
2 cups seeded raisins
8 oz. diced mixed peel
½ cup candied cherries
¾ cup sherry wine

Wash raisins and drain on paper towelling. Place peel in a large bowl and add sliced candied cherries. Add raisins and sherry and mix thoroughly. Let stand overnight.

The next day combine these ingredients in the order given, in a large bowl—

1¾ cups sifted bread (all purpose) flour
½ tsp. salt
1 tsp. cinnamon
1 tsp. nutmeg
½ lb. finely ground suet
1 cup sugar

Work suet with fingertips into dry ingredients and then add the sugar.

Combine *3* well beaten eggs and ¼ cup milk and add with sherry-soaked fruits to the dry ingredients. Blend thoroughly.

Turn into greased 4-pint mold or 16 small individual molds filling two-thirds full. Cover with several thicknesses of greased waxed paper tied on securely. Steam large mold 3 hours and small molds 2½ hours. If you have a suitable mold for your pressure cooker use it by all means, following manufacturer's directions for time and pressure.

This quantity of pudding will yield 16 generous servings. The food cost for this pudding is $1.29.

To store:

Leave pudding covered in original molds to cool thoroughly. Let stand at room temperature to dry out for 24 hours. Then store in cool, dry place.

To resteam:

Place mold or molds in steamer. Steam for 1 hour for a large mold and somewhat less time for smaller molds.

■ Potatoes of the stylish stout size can be baked and stuffed with excellent results. Whip up the hot scooped-out insides of the potatoes with cream, butter and seasonings (grated onion, salt and pepper) plus 1 cup grated nippy cheese. Mix in drained crabmeat (7 oz. tin) which has been broken up with a fork. Refill potato shells and reheat in 450° F. oven for about 15 minutes. A toothsome item for a luncheon for the ladies. It can be prepared ahead of time.

■ Instead of peas n' carrots, that inevitable company and banquet twosome, combine fresh or frozen Frenched green beans with tiny onions (there are quite a few available this year). Sauté the whole onions 10 minutes in butter or margarine over low heat. Add to the beans and cook in boiling salted water about 10-12 minutes. Season to taste.

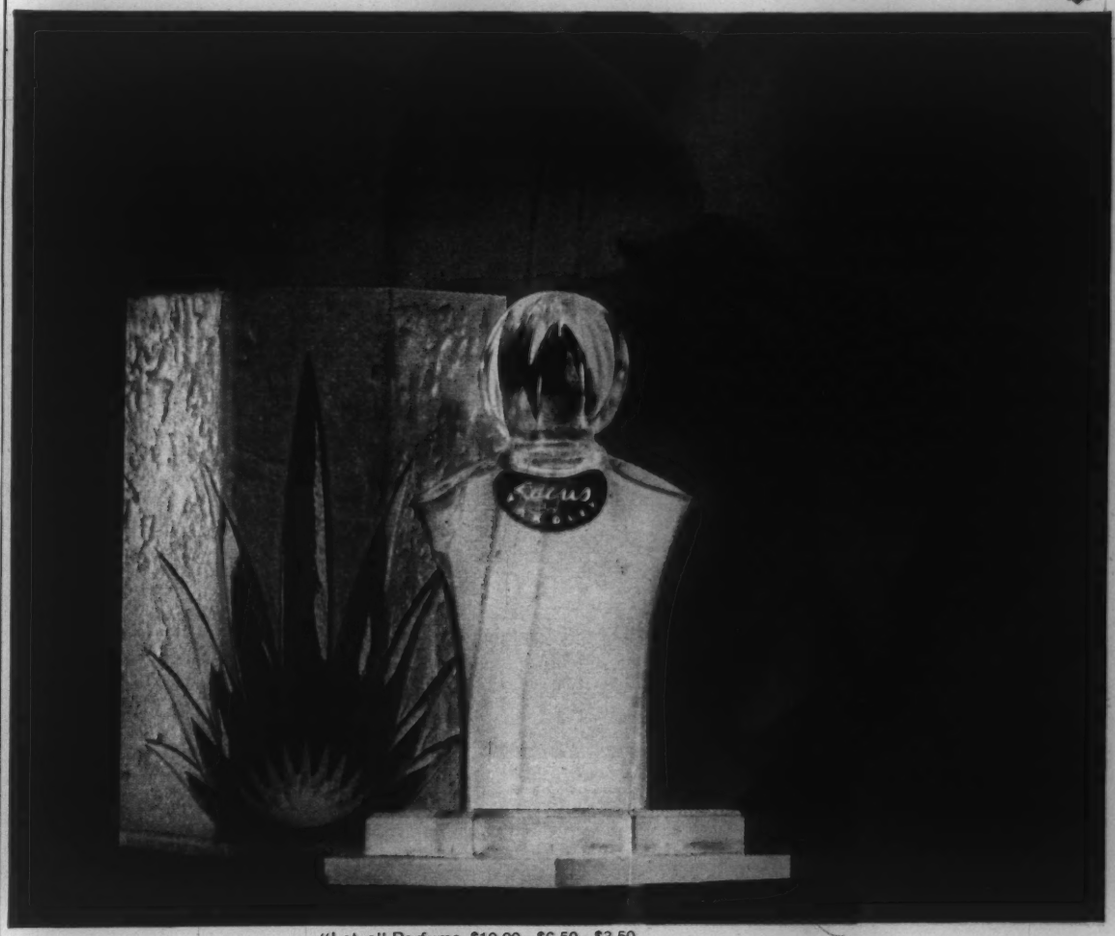
■ From a package you can produce a feather textured steamed pudding. Simply mix a chocolate cake mix according to directions on package. Pour into a well greased round mold which fits your pressure saucepan. Cover with greased wax paper, or aluminum foil. Set on rack and steam in pressure pan for 15 minutes. Set the gauge and steam under pressure for 15 minutes. Reduce pressure quickly. Unmold. Serve with sweetened whipped cream (½ pint) to which 1 tbsp. sherry has been added.

■ More pressure—only use it on pork chops this time. Snare loin pork chops cut 1" thick from your butcher. Brown to a nice tan in your pressure saucepan. Drain off fat, cover chops with thin slices of onion and top with one tin of condensed cream of mushroom soup to which 1/3 cup water has been added. Process 10 minutes at 15 lbs. pressure then let pressure return slowly. Transfer chops gently to a heated platter. Stir the sauce *well* and serve separately.

■ For lunch on a busy day. Cook 1-1/3 cups elbow macaroni *al dente* —literally toothsome. Drain and place in top of double boiler. Add 1 tin condensed cream of celery soup and ¼ lb. diced yellow process cheese (½ pkg.). Heat and combine thoroughly. Taste and add salt, pepper and worcestershire sauce to suit your fancy. Thin with milk if necessary. You can run this dish up in between jobs and it will be ready to consume when you're gaunt with hunger—about 11.45 a.m.

Lotus

BY APPOINTMENT PERFUMERS TO H.M. QUEEN MARY. YARDLEY, LONDON



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DISTAFF:

Among the Elect

AT THE 70TH annual meeting of the General Assembly of the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts, Dorothy Stevens of Toronto was elected as full academician.

■ En route to Haifa, Israel, via New York is Miss Teresa Ann (Terry) Constable of Victoria. She has been transferred to the American Consulate there.

■ Mrs. Harold Lorie of Toronto, National President of the National Council of Jewish Women of Canada, was recently in the West, speaking to groups. Mrs. Lorie represented her organization in Paris, France, at a conference of the International Council of Jewish Women. She was elected one of the international vice-presidents.

■ Nora Grennan, Vancouver soprano, was married recently to Duncan Ross Heggie. Miss Grennan won a radio role on "Harvest of Stars" last Spring.

■ Mary Morrison of Winnipeg returned home to take the lead in "Naughty Marietta", the operetta staged by the Kelvin Grads. Miss Morrison is Kelvin's most famous vocal star. Last year she sang the role of Mimi in CBC's "La Boheme". She is in her final year at the Senior School, Royal Conservatory of Music of Toronto.

■ Alexandra Denisova (former Pat Myers of Vancouver) who has been with the Ballet Russe, returns Dec. 1 to direct and dance for the Vancouver Civic Ballet Society.

■ In Ottawa, the newly-formed Canadian Women's Army Corps Association elected Lt. Col. Joan Kennedy as President.

■ Dorothy Taylor of New Westminster, BC, editor and publisher of *The British Columbian*, was at the Royal Winter Fair, Toronto, in her cattle breeder's role. Her Jersey bull won second prize.

■ Miss Hazel E. Tilling, ARRC, has been appointed to take charge of the operating rooms in the new Peterborough hospital. Miss Tilling is a graduate of Hamilton General Hospital. She was awarded the Associated Royal Red Cross by the King for her war duties.

■ Fashion coordinator for Montreal Fashion Industries is Ottawa-born Dorothy Dale, who was educated in San Francisco and did newspaper work on the Ottawa *Citizen*. Montreal's Spring Fashion show is slated for end of November.

■ The Toronto Fashion Show will be held Dec. 6 and 7, with Viola Shefer of New York as coordinator and commentator. Miss Shefer spent her early childhood in Winnipeg, so has a link with Canada.

■ Mrs. Amy Grace Kelsey of Erickson, BC, won the world wheat championship for the second time in three years at the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto.

■ Vancouver-born Mrs. June Whitley (former June Culbertson) plays the part of Robert Young's wife in the radio show "Father Knows Best." Mr. and Mrs. Whitley left Canadian radio in 1945 to go to Hollywood.

Brain-Teaser:

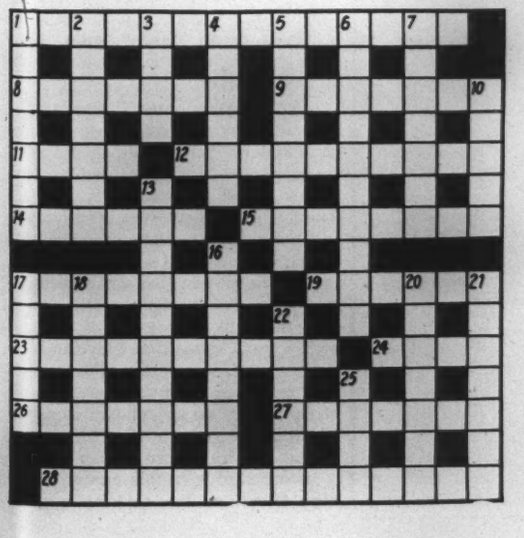
Disporting with Sport

ACROSS

1. Young lady who will direct you incorrectly? (14)
8. For the tramp to sleep on? (7)
9. A small one might be a baby-sitter. (4, 3)
11. She's a bit of an ignoramus. (4)
12. Of purpose for the bachelor? (10)
14. See 21. (6)
15. Howls and eats Lulu. (8)
17. Approbation at cricket. There's a catch to it, sir. (4, 4)
19. Rest up. (anagram) (6)
23. He's like rain at a ball game. (10)
24. The last one winds up the yarn at the movies. (4)
26. Abstract a book on pie (but not a cook book). (7)
27. × or + to. (7)
28. It makes a long scratch. (5, 5, 4)

DOWN

1. The C.I.O. norm is surely not this! (7)
2. Rose had something fishy. (4, 3)
3. With niblicks one can't admit defeat. (4)
4. Call Dora in to the church. (6)
5. Get-rich-quick flower. (8)
6. Journeymen? (10)
7. Stuff. (7)
10. Some radio men jockey them along. (5)
13. Paradoxically those who are, are often tight (2, 3, 5)
16. Mostly comfortable on foot but uncomfortable under. (8)
17. This usually makes a stew? (5)
18. Give Somebody a roaring reception. (7)
20. Stop before a "5 and 10" to change. (7)
21. Gasoline 14 this, probably. (7)
22. Fleet, but not too fleet for the bowling. (6)
25. Shakespeare's were seven. (4)



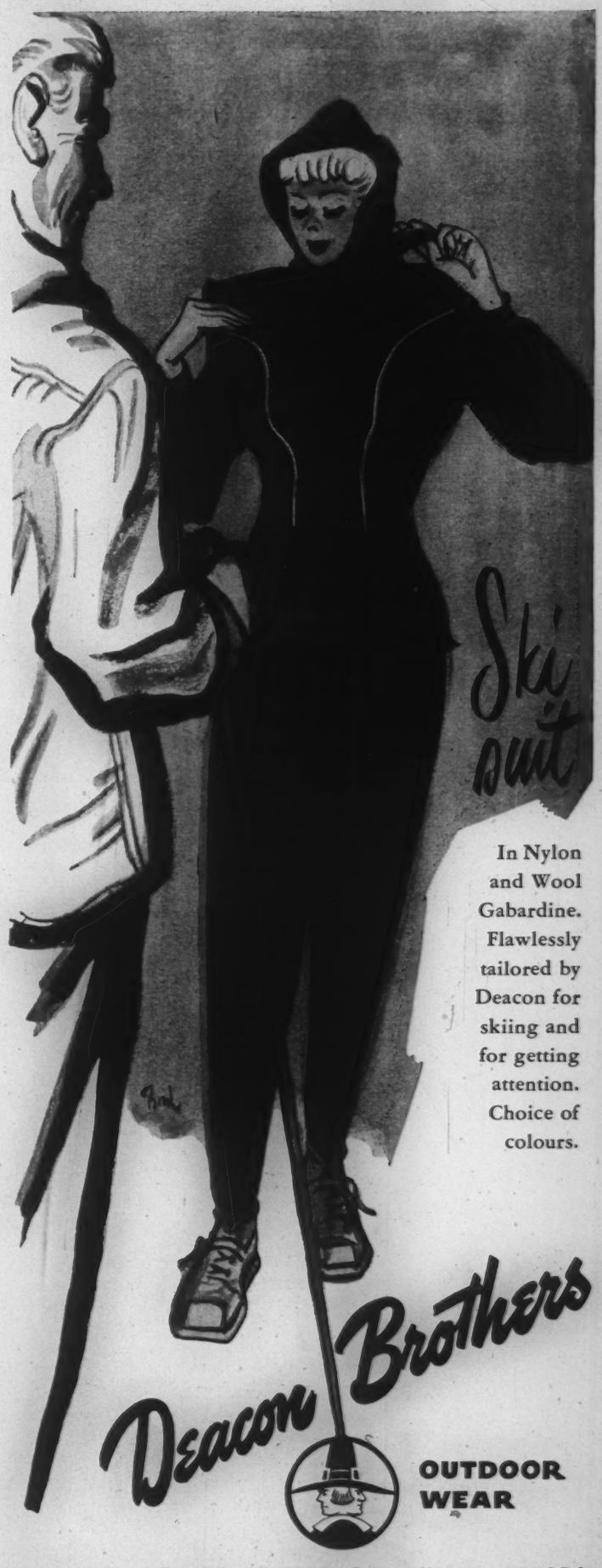
Solution to Last Week's Puzzle

ACROSS

1. Humane society
10. Open air
11. Picasso
12. Dread
13. Ivan
14. Flat
16. Nest-egg
18. Swagger
19. Truants
22. Marconi
24. Ella
25. Bang
26. Deign
28. Ant hill
29. Navvies
30. Chiropractors

DOWN

2. Useless
3. Award
4. Earning
5. Orphans
6. Inca
7. Tossing
8. Holding the bag
9. Contortionist
15. Fair
17. Edna
20. Unlatch
21. Scallop
22. Magenta 26. Davit
23. Olivier 27. Liar (32)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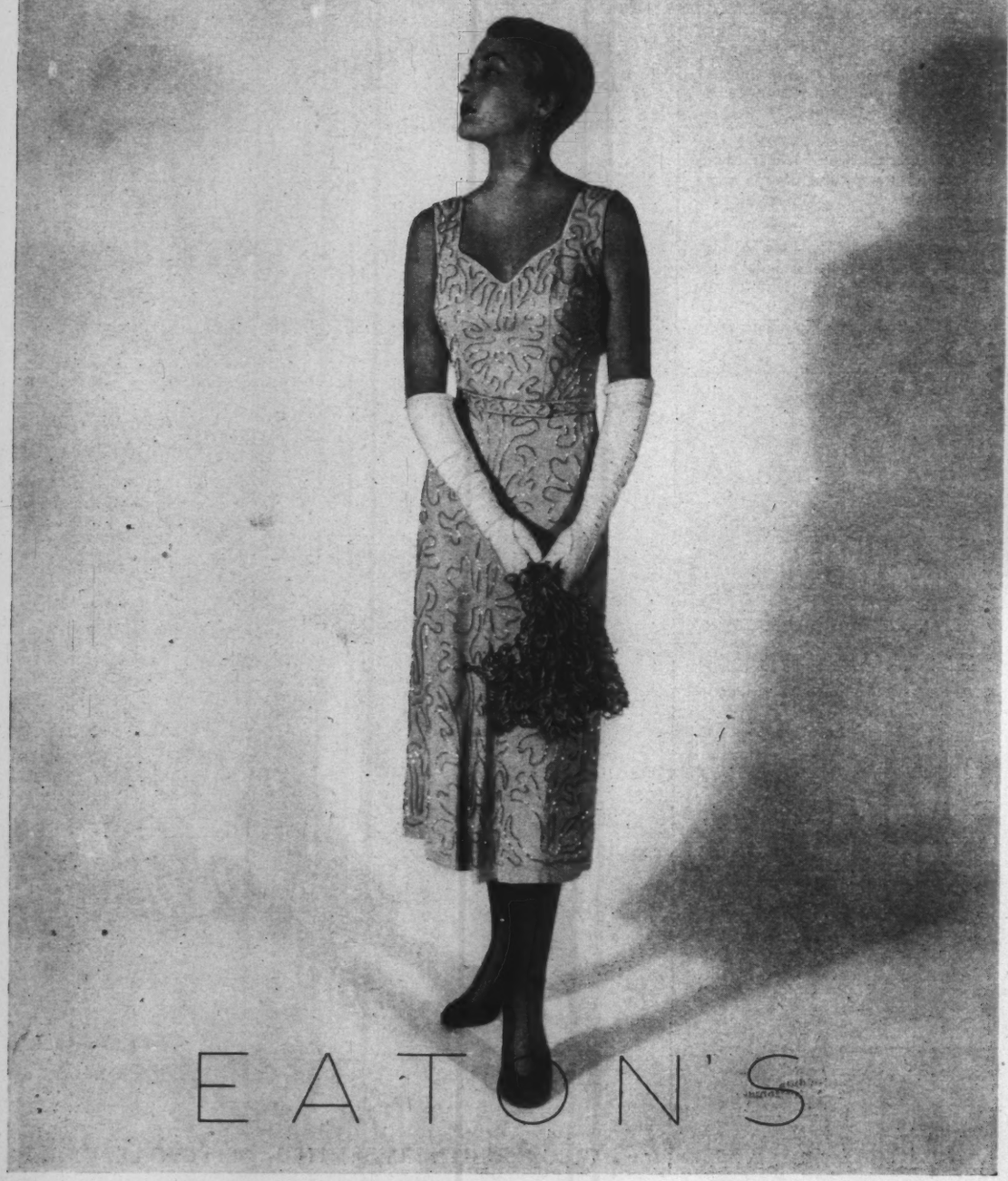

EATON'S

Personalities:

Investors' Pilot

by Lillian D. Millar

HELEN CLEVELAND is Canada's pioneer counsellor and lecturer to women on the important matter of investing their money. As Manager of the Women's Department of Wood, Gundy and Company, Limited, she not only buys and sells stocks and bonds for her clients but she advises them how to handle their money, how to make it work for them.

Hers is a highly confidential business, so confidential that we had difficulty in extracting information about her work. All day long women come to her desk with their investment problems. The needs of no two are alike. Before she can give sound advice she must know as much as possible about their financial position and individual circumstances, just what this money means to them, what they want this investment to accomplish.

The investment plan of a young woman just starting to earn her own

—Gordon Jarrett

WORRIERS *are not good gamblers.*

living is quite different from that of a young married woman who, with her husband, is planning to buy a house or to pay off a mortgage. A business woman, or a middle-aged couple looking forward to retiring soon, have different problems than a widow with money to invest.

Miss Cleveland must also try to discover the characteristics and the temperament of her client. If she is a "worrier" it is not wise to let her buy stocks which are likely to fluctuate widely. When they rise in price she will not be able to sleep at night wondering if she should sell. If they drop she will be certain that she is going to lose all her money. On the other hand, while it is all right to "take a flyer" with a small sum, Miss Cleveland has to try to save the woman who loves to take a chance from risking too much of her money on speculative securities which offer only a slim chance of capital gain or return on her money.

In order to give this expert advice Miss Cleveland has to keep a sharp

eye on Canadian business and world conditions. Before she can recommend a bond or stock she needs to know the security behind it and the outside factors which might affect its value.

"It is my experience that women usually underestimate what they know about money matters," says Miss Cleveland.

Today a large percentage of the nation's wealth is in the hands of women. It has been estimated that nearly two-thirds of the savings bank accounts are in the names of women; that they own 40 per cent of all real estate and 23 per cent of all shares of stock; that they inherit half the money left in estates and that they are beneficiaries of 80 per cent of life insurance payments. Women are accepting the responsibility of this wealth and they are eager to learn how to invest it wisely.

Last spring Miss Cleveland organized a short course of lectures for women on investment matters. These lectures were received so enthusiastically that another series was held in October. More than 1,300 women attended.

Helen Cleveland was born in Minneapolis and her early childhood was spent in the American West. She went to school in Arizona and Los Angeles. Then, after a visit to a Canadian uncle, she came to Canada to live and became a resident of Havergal College in Toronto.

Even as a little girl Helen knew what she wanted as a life work. Her father was a mining engineer and Helen's childhood was spent in mining towns. The conversation at home was about mines, about securities and about organizing companies. Instead of playing with dolls young Helen played "mining". She sold shares to her little playmates and these shares gave them the right to help to dig in the "mine" in her back garden.

There Ever Since

As soon as she was allowed to leave school Helen presented herself at the office of Wood, Gundy and Company and announced, "I want to learn the business. Will you give me a job?" She got it and has been there ever since. Today she heads one of the most important departments of the firm.

Apart from her busy business life, Miss Cleveland has many interests. She is a member of the Zonta Club of Toronto, one of its past Presidents and a past President of Zonta International. She is on the board of the Second Mile Club and on the national board of the Health League of Canada. Miss Cleveland likes to speak in public and she is an able lecturer.

Ever since she has been old enough to walk her chief hobby has been riding. She still rides at least once a week. She is also a philatelist and has an extensive collection of stamps from most parts of the world.

"But," Miss Cleveland emphasizes, "my real interest is my work. Through it I meet people of every type and over the years get to know many of them intimately. It keeps me in touch with what is going on in the world. Mine is the most fascinating business there is."

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B—Snowmaiden—coyly conceals a 4 oz. bottle of White Orchid Flower Mist . . . 2.50.

C—Humpty Dumpty Purse Dispenser, "My Love" fragrance in a gay mood . . . 6.00.

D—Snow Ball—fragrant bubbles to melt her heart . . . June Geranium Bath Soap (single) . . . 1.00.

E—Snowman—under his sprightly hat, a 4 oz. bottle of Blue Grass Flower Mist . . . 2.50.

F—Soap Show-Case frosted—revealing 3 cakes of luxurious Blue Grass Bath Soap . . . 4.00.

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then and now

Birthday: 51st, Dec. 1; The Hon. Stuart Garson, Minister of Justice and Attorney-General of Canada.

Retirement: Arthur S. Banstead, 76, active in Provincial affairs in Nova Scotia for more than 50 years, and Deputy Provincial Secretary since 1918. Local newspaper formula for checking facts or dates of provincial significance has been "Ask Arthur Banstead."

Retirement: Next June, after 20 years, Leonard Wheelton, Superintendent of Windsor, Ont., Schools. "I'm just going to settle down and take a lot of pictures," he says.

Death: Mr. Justice Charles Gerald O'Connor, 59, one of Canada's most distinguished legal figures; in Ottawa. A former member of the Alberta Legislature he had sat as Judge in the Exchequer Court of Canada for the past four years.

Death: Edmund A. MacGillivray, former Liberal member of the Ontario Legislature and active in politics for 25 years; of a heart attack in Alexandria, Ont., 10 days after the death of his sister.

Death: William Henry Jessop, 73, pioneer farmer of Fleming, Sask.

Death: Marjorie Waugh Chambers, widow of Colonel E. C. G. Chambers, of the Royal Canadian Engineers; in Barbados, BWI. Born in Winnipeg, educated in Montreal and well-known in Ottawa, Toronto and Hamilton.

Death: Captain William Thomas Dundas, member of the Toronto Fire Department for 32 years; his illness was the result of an accident he suffered while fighting a fire in 1933.

Death: Andrew Leslie, City Commissioner, active in Saskatoon municipal affairs since 1911, during which time he made notable contribution to the financial soundness of the community.

Death: William Keith, 80, former Senior Magistrate of York County, Ont., and one of the district's best-known figures over several decades.

Death: James J. Richardson, 92, retired Customs officer at Collingwood, Ont.

Death: Godwin Valentine Maclean, 89, noted mathematician. A native of Kingston, Ont., he had lived in Toronto since his retirement.

Death: Charles Ladd Lugsden, 84, member of the Queen's Own Rifles who served in the Northwest Rebellion; in Toronto, after an illness of several months.

Death: Alfred H. Chapman, 70, outstanding Canadian architect; in Toronto after six years' ill health. The Ontario Government Building, the Pure Food Building and the Princes' Gate, CNE, were the work of his firm.

the lighter side

You Can't Win

by Mary Lowrey Ross

"DID you know?" said my friend Mr. Blufisch, "that the Government gets 21.58 cents out of every thirty-five cent package of cigarettes you buy?"

"21.58 cents! Good Heavens!" I said, and nervously lit a cigarette.

"That's your third," Mr. Blufisch said.

"I always smoke when I'm upset," I said.

"WELL it all goes to help the Government," Mr. Blufisch said, "As I see it the Government is now in the tobacco business and the manufacturers and distributors are just the front men. As the head of the firm it is naturally in the interest of the Government to promote sales. It does this by hidden and pyramided sales taxes, and other devices which make people nervous and irritated. This helps to boost sales without the use of direct advertising."

"The least the Government could do would be to put the amount of the sales tax on the excise stamp," I said.

"Now that's an idea," Mr. Blufisch said, "You couldn't find a better way of creating hypertension. It would probably send sales up twenty to thirty per cent. I don't know why the Government hasn't thought of it. . . . What are you figuring out?"

"I'm trying to figure out what I pay the Government in hidden taxes over a year," I said.

"That's your fourth cigarette," Mr. Blufisch said.

"I know," I said, "but I always have to smoke when I'm trying to figure."

"There's an angle there too," said Mr. Blufisch, "Have you ever wondered why Income Tax forms are made so complicated? It's because it sends up cigarette consumption. If you allow one package of cigarettes to every taxpayer trying to make out his income-tax form you get a Government side profit of something under, maybe over a million dollars in a single operation."

"Then don't forget the pyramided tax-system," Mr. Blufisch went on, "The manufacturer, the wholesaler and the retailer all get separate sales taxes. The manufacturer passes his on to the wholesaler who passes it on to the retailer, who passes it on to you. That means you are now paying the government about 28.47 cents for your pack of cigarettes."

"I'm going to write a letter of protest to the head of the Hidden Taxes Department," I said after a moment, "I wonder where he is in the picture."

"Hidden," Mr. Blufisch said, "Your letter would go to the Minister of Finance. He passes it on to the Deputy Minister, who passes it on to the supervisor who passes it on to the local tax supervisor who uses it for scratch-paper."

"What you have to remember," he continued, "is that the Government operates on a simple policy of give-and-take. You give. It takes."

"I wonder what it would do," I said after a moment, "if I made up my income-tax-form on a basis of hidden dividends."

"Prosecute," said Mr. Blufisch, " 'Omitted dividends, rentals, interest etc., are doubled in addition to other penalties.' See Entry B, Section 29, T. 1 General. In other words, taxes not admitted by the Government are hidden taxes, while taxes not admitted by the taxpayer are falsified taxes and subject to penalty."

"But supposing," I persisted, "that I were to pyramid by indemnities the way the Government pyramids its sales taxes."

"How do you mean?" Mr. Blufisch asked.

"Well say I claimed as indemnities an aged grandparent, five mentally incompetent children, and a hundred dollar contribution to the Community Chest," I said, "I might pyramid the five mentally incompetent children on the aged grandparent on the Community Chest contribution and bring myself into the tax-exempt category."

Mr. Bluefisch scratched his chin. "I'd say, roughly, that you'd lose your indemnities and have to pay a penalty, doubled and redoubled."

"THEN there's only one thing to do," I said, "Cigarette users will have to make a massed demonstration. We should march down to the waterfront and throw all our tobacco into the harbor as a protest against taxation."

Mr. Blufisch shook his head. "The Government would slap injunctions on you for polluting coast waters," he said, "You can't win."

"Or, in the words of Mr. Garson, the Government has a large majority," I said.

"I couldn't have put it better myself," said Mr. Blufisch.

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TRAVELOGUES

Canadian Developments Offer Attractive Future

IMPERIAL BANK OF CANADA EXECUTIVES ADDRESS 75th. ANNUAL MEETING

Problems Of International Trade Must Be Solved

Toronto, November 23:—The 75th Annual Meeting of Imperial Bank of Canada was held today at the Head Office in Toronto. The Chairman of the Board, Mr. R. S. Waldie, commented on the fact that the Bank has grown steadily over its 75 years without the aid of mergers or amalgamations, although the assets of a small Western institution serving a limited territory in Saskatchewan were purchased in 1931.

It has built up a reputation, second to none, and has won its own place in public confidence for security and service. Mr. Waldie stated that the Bank has over 390,000 savings depositors and more than 60,000 current account depositors while shareholders number 3,073. The Bank has paid dividends annually to its shareholders since its inception.

Mr. Waldie continued in part:

Canadian Banks have always been in the forefront in opening up new territory and providing banking facilities, often actually in advance of the needs of the community, and none more so than the Imperial Bank of Canada. In addition to catering to the needs of industry in the larger centres, the Bank has always been ready to foster industry in the smaller places and to assist the small farmer, trader, industrialist or business man, who in the long run form the backbone of the nation.

In addition to its branches in the larger places the Bank has throughout the various provinces 55 branches in communities with a population of 1,000 or less and 34 branches in communities with between 1,000 and 5,000 population. In 72 of these smaller communities the Bank owns its own premises and is a substantial taxpayer. In all these places the branch managers and their staffs are active members of the local communities.

The General Manager has commented favourably upon the Bank's statement for the year just ended and all I need say is that the results are most gratifying to your Directors and we hope they will meet again with your approval. I shall confine the remainder of my remarks to general business conditions.

BUSINESS IN 1949

On the whole, the year since our last Annual Meeting has been one of surprising stability. The very large investment in factories, machines, houses and services, which has been so great a factor in creating active business conditions since the war, has been fully maintained and even extended. In comparison with the previous year, there has been less investment in manufacturing plants and more in public utilities and housing. Our exports, which were expected to be under some pressure, have in total held up well. There has been some decline in particular products but, as regards markets, only that of Continental Europe has as yet shown a pronounced drop. Wages have risen but less than in previous years. While there has been some slight fall in prices, they have, on the whole, been remarkably steady. Unemployment has been somewhat higher but it has been chiefly seasonal unemployment and its relative size has been small.

As in our own Bank, banking business in Canada has shown a marked steadiness and growth. Total bank assets are somewhat higher than a year ago and the increase is fairly evenly distributed among loans, securities and cash reserves.

Notwithstanding the tax reductions of the last Budget, the revenues of the National Government have continued buoyant, and despite some increase in expenditures, a sizeable budgetary surplus is being built up.

The year behind us has been one of steady achievement and prosperity, better on the whole than had been forecast.

THE PROSPECTS AHEAD

One of the most helpful developments in the past year and equally promising for the future has been the extension of oil discoveries in Alberta and other western provinces and their rapid and efficient expansion. The area which can presently be served by the thousand producing wells has been turned from an area importing oil from the United States to one which is self-supporting. When the new pipeline and other facilities for efficient transportation become available, Western Canada will be able to supply much of the oil requirements of the East or, alternatively, if suitable trade arrangements can be made, can export large quantities to the United States, and so offset the eastern imports from the United States and Central and South America.

The great flow of capital to this area has been very important in maintaining business activity throughout the year. The rapid development of such resources presents, however, many difficult problems, problems in the fair and efficient use of natural resources and in the provision for a rapid influx in population. I would like to pay a tribute to the Premier of Alberta, Mr. Manning, and his Cabinet, for their wisdom and foresight in the provisions they have made for allotting oil-bearing and prospective oil-bearing properties, and for the care which they have exercised in protecting the public interest. In fact, I do not recall any better example in our history of the prudent and systematic management of public resources.

Other domestic factors, influencing the level of business, also promise well for the future. Despite drought, the farming communities generally have had a good year. Notwithstanding variations among particular groups, there is in total ample income in the hands of consumers to maintain a high level of purchasing.

We may expect, particularly in the larger urban communities, continued large expenditures to provide services to larger and more actively engaged populations. Transportation and public utilities, water and sewage installations, schools, hospital and other health services still represent a considerable backlog of expenditure whether it is the spending of governments, or supported by government grants, or the investment of private capital.

In the field of housing, about 100,000 units will have been completed by the end of the year. For the first time since the war more units have been built than there were new families to occupy them and we had reduced somewhat the backlog. We may expect house construction to be active in the coming year but the problem of costs is a serious one. Houses produced by the speculative builder are not selling as rapidly as before. Many people are paying rents or debt charges which are too high for their incomes. While a housing slump is not immediately in prospect, demand will soon be choked off unless substantial reductions in construction costs can be achieved.

If we look at our internal situation only, we must conclude that the outlook for business activity is favourable. We can never forget, however, the degree to which our economic well-being is dependent on our external trade. Almost the whole of our primary industry is very heavily dependent on outside markets and a smaller but significant part of our secondary industry requires foreign markets in addition to home demand. When we look abroad, we can see serious difficulties which may beset our path in the future.

CONDITIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

Firstly, the recession in the United States, which was so frequently predicted over so long a period finally took shape during the past year. Business has been so active in Canada that perhaps insufficient attention has been given to conditions about which so much has been said in advance. The United States index of industrial production which stood at 191 in August, 1948, had fallen twelve months later to 170. Wholesale prices, which stood at a peak of almost 170 in August, 1948, declined in the next twelve months to 153, a decline of around 1% a month. There were 1,900,000 unemployed in August 1948, and this year the figure was 3,700,000.

These changes do not in themselves represent a serious recession, certainly not if we have already seen the full extent of it. But, they have not been without their effects on this country. Two years ago United States' wholesale prices, in comparison with pre-war levels were 18% higher than Canadian prices. Now United States prices are slightly lower than ours. This reversal has occasioned some difficulty in maintaining our exports to the United States. It has meant also that there has been some increase in imports which have been priced more attractively than our own production. The most notable increase in import has been in steel where supply rather than price has been the decisive influence. There is no doubt that without the prohibitions and quotas which still apply under the Exchange Conservation Act, the increase of our imports from the United States would have been much greater. Whether the recession in the United States has run its course, it is difficult to say. There has been some revival in the late summer and fall but there are also some signs that the revival is losing strength.

Whatever the future course may be and despite the temporary advantage given by the devaluation of our dollar, it will be well for all Canadian businesses to watch carefully their position in relation to competition from the United States.

PROSPERITY IN UNITED KINGDOM AND EUROPE BOUND UP WITH AMERICA

The second external situation which profoundly affects the future of this country is that which recently gave rise to the drastic devaluation of sterling and many other currencies. In its immediate causes, it was related to the business recession in the United States. Purchases of raw materials by the United States from the sterling area; particularly rubber and tin, declined sharply, and sales of the United Kingdom manufacturers in the United States also fell off. The sterling area was simply one of the victims of the general slow-up in purchasing occasioned by the desire to reduce inventories. When it appeared that the pound was in danger, there occurred, of course, a secondary postponement of purchasing which made devaluation inevitable.

Behind these immediate circumstances, lay the fact that sterling prices were out of line with North American prices. In part, insufficient progress had been made in improving the efficiency of production, but in part also prices and costs were set by the great demands of the home market and the sterling area for goods. Efforts by the United Kingdom to substitute sterling imports for dollar imports merely aggravated the situation, because it gave the sterling area more sterling with which to bid for United Kingdom products and to raise sterling prices further beyond the competitive level in North America.

The potential benefit to be derived by the United Kingdom from devaluation is that, if the dollar prices of sterling exports are maintained, it will be more profitable to sell them in the dollar areas, while profit margins on sales to the sterling area will be unchanged. In respect to those articles on which dollar prices are cut, there will be an improvement in the competitive position of British goods in the dollar markets. One need not, of course, be blind to the possibility that the advantages of devaluation may be quickly absorbed by rising costs in the United Kingdom, if inflation, whether it comes from government or private expenditures, is not dampened down.

Canada's devaluation is an incident in this larger background. Opinions concerning it may differ. We should however, note that while in 1946 United States prices were much higher than Canada, the indexes now show them to be lower. The sterling devaluation, if untempered by our own, would have greatly increased the cost of imports from Canada in all parts of the sterling area. The change in the exchange rate gives an incentive to increase our exports to the United States and diminish our imports from that country which should be helpful to our balance of payments.

On the whole, the sterling devaluation offers the possibility of helping and helping greatly in the immediate crisis, but it is important to note that the larger and underlying issues have not yet been met.

In speaking of this summer's crisis, we should not overlook the very substantial and real recovery which has taken place in the United Kingdom and in Europe. The production in western Europe with the exception of western Germany is well above the pre-war level. The United Kingdom has succeeded in raising its exports on a volume basis about 50 per cent above the pre-war level. While the crisis which occurred was particularly a sterling crisis, the United Kingdom in fact had done very much more towards increasing its exports and balancing its

accounts than any European country.

It is true that Europe and the United Kingdom have been enormously weakened by two world wars, but the real roots of the crisis go deeper even than that. For four centuries, Europe was the expanding and dynamic centre of the economic world. For the past sixty years or more, her position has been declining. There has been a slackening of new investment and of industrial modernization and a loss of competitive strength in external markets. The real situation has been concealed by the using up of capital, both internal and external, and by the low level of business activity in the inter-war years.

The immediate crisis has subsided. The fundamental question still remains. There must be, over the next few years, a great readjustment in world trade. If Europe is to earn her living she must sell much more to North America. But, is North America willing to accept the increase in imports which will be necessary if the United Kingdom and Europe are to succeed in balancing their accounts? Is North America willing continuously to invest abroad such export surpluses as may result from her trading? Is the United States willing to see her export surplus disappear or be converted into an import surplus? It is only by so doing that the United States will assume the full responsibilities which attach to her position as the greatest creditor nation. This is the transformation which must come about if the western trading world is to be re-created and a solid sub-structure is to be placed under The Atlantic Pact. These are the final questions of which the devaluation crisis was merely the advance notice.

There is a danger of thinking in out-of-date terms. In the thirties we thought of imports as unwanted goods and threats to jobs. Now there are many goods which we want. Moreover, higher wages on this Continent have made goods with high labour contents almost too expensive to buy. It is precisely these goods which Europe can produce cheaply, for her greatest assets are the number and skill of her workers.

There is a second and for Canada a more serious consideration. The United Kingdom and Europe are naturally deficient in food and some raw materials. There is no other alternative market for a substantial part of our cereals and some other foods, our lumber and to some degree our metals. Unless their capacity to pay is increased by the growing proceeds of their exports, Europe and the United Kingdom will be forced to seek a position nearer to self-sufficiency. If they do so, their standard of living will be sharply reduced and so also will ours.

It is the United States which must accept the larger challenge. Canada's export surplus is small and we have been great importers as well as great exporters. But in smaller measure, there is also a challenge to this country. We too must be prepared to take more imports from the United Kingdom and Europe.

The great question of our economic future is, can Europe and North America achieve a new and mutually beneficial relationship, one which will improve standards of living on both Continents and place a solid foundation under The Atlantic Pact. This is not merely a challenge to governments, it is a challenge to free enterprise on this Continent whose boast it is that it has the flexibility, initiative and resourcefulness to cope successfully with new situations.

Business Maintained at High Level

Long Term Prosperity Assured Says Bank General Manager

Toronto, November 23: — Mr. I. K. Johnston, General Manager, Imperial Bank of Canada, speaking to the 75th Annual Meeting of Shareholders held in Toronto today, stressed the fact that the prosperity of the country at this point was undoubted and general business of all kinds was maintained at a very high level in 1949.

Mr. Johnston said in part:

It is my privilege to comment on the Seventy-Fifth Annual Statement of the Bank now before you which shows total assets of $519,040,569, the highest figure yet attained, the increase during the year being $47,197,000.

PROFITS

The profits before provision for depreciation and taxes were $2,110,075, an increase of $273,497. Provision for depreciation of $315,820—up $36,354, and for Dominion and Provincial taxes of $679,900—up $91,000, left $1,115,225 out of which amount dividends at the rate of $1.20 per share totalling $840,000 were paid, leaving $275,255 balance of profit carried forward. This addition makes the balance of Profit and Loss Account $1,791,033. We trust that you will consider this showing satisfactory.

LIABILITIES

The first item I wish to speak of is Notes in Circulation $703,137. This item is perhaps of historical interest as this is the last time you will see it in a statement of a Canadian Chartered Bank. It has appeared in our Statements ever since 1876 but within thirty days after the 1st of January, 1950 all Chartered Banks are required to pay to the Bank of Canada the face value of all their notes then outstanding. Thereafter the Bank of Canada will become responsible for the redemption of all bank notes, and the last vestige of what was known as the double liability of Bank shareholders will no longer exist.

DEPOSITS

Deposits at $476,270,031, showing an increase of $46,169,000, are again an all-time high. Of this increase $15,364,000 is in non-interest bearing deposits; $20,362,000 is in interest bearing deposits; $10,443,000 is in Dominion and Provincial deposits. Upon analysis, we are happy to say, we do not see any inflationary signs in these increases.

Turning now to our assets you will note that coin, together with notes of and balances with the Bank of Canada total $50,200,079, an increase of $8,248,000, and approximately 10½% of deposits liabilities to the public.

INVESTMENTS AND LOANS

Our investments not exceeding market value total $228,012,231, an increase of $26,769,000, short term Dominion securities being less by $5,826,000 due to the redemption by the Government of their Deposit Certificates; and longer term Dominions higher by $33,227,000—an ample portfolio of readily marketable securities.

Loans total $193,157,645, an increase of $9,877,000 of which $6,459,000 is in current loans and $3,825,000 is in loans to cities, towns and municipalities. These loans are widely diversified and carefully supervised and we are doing our full part in meeting the needs of our customers, both large and small. The great number of small customers makes their business important and very welcome.

BANK PREMISES

Bank Premises account, including furniture, fixtures and equipment, stands at $6,372,376, an increase of $233,000.

Our increasing business has made it necessary to renovate and enlarge many of our branches, and in the last few years the mechanizing of branches has been greatly increased. This machine equipment has been the means of improving working conditions considerably. We are keeping our offices as up-to-date and attractive as possible.

SHAREHOLDERS AND BRANCHES

Our shareholders now number 3,073, an increase of 78 for the year. Of the total, 235 are residents of the United States.

During the year the following branches were opened—Forest Hill Village, Cornwall, Guelph, Rocky Island—sub to Thessalon, in the Province of Ontario; Halifax, Nova Scotia; East Kildonan, Manitoba; Loon Lake, Saskatchewan; Mayerthorpe, Alberta; Broadway and Cambie Streets, Vancouver, British Columbia. Our new branch at Halifax, N.S., is our first in the Maritimes, and our staff who opened this branch were received with true Maritime hospitality. Including the above, we now have 208 branches, located as follows—Nova Scotia—1, Quebec—6, Ontario—126, Manitoba—8, Saskatchewan — 24, Alberta — 25, British Columbia—17, Northwest Territories—1.

STAFF A MOST IMPORTANT ASSET

Mr. Johnston continued: During the year our staff increased 162, now numbering 2,563 of which 1,157 are young ladies. Expanding business and the opening of new branches have provided many opportunities for promotion and goes to show the progressive future which awaits young men of energy and talent who wish to take up a career with the Bank.

Our Staff is regarded as one of the most important assets the Bank has, although of course it cannot be taken into the Balance Sheet. The steady increase in business which your Bank enjoys is due to the watchfulness and enterprise of our Managers and the efficiency, courtesy, and helpfulness of their Staffs, both men and young ladies. I am very proud of the conscientious, hard-working and efficient Staff of this Bank.

GENERAL BUSINESS CONDITIONS

Under this heading I must confine my remarks to a few highlights as our Chairman's Address will cover the ground more fully. Our crops in the year were not up to those of 1948 owing to lack of subsoil moisture in the West and a prolonged drought in the East but in spite of these hindrances were substantial. General business of all kinds was maintained at a very high level and our prosperity at this point is undoubted. This is evidenced by our Statement, just read to you, as our branches cover the country and since we opened in Halifax I can say properly—from Halifax to Victoria and from the southern border to Yellowknife in the North West Territories.

Last year I mentioned the oil developments in Alberta and the iron ore in Quebec and Labrador. Undoubtedly these two developments are most outstanding and we may look to them for years as great supports to our economy. In the oil situation we now see much that was potential become actual and with millions of acres well located but not yet explored the potential is so great that it is difficult for any of us to grasp fully the possibilities. Many millions of dollars were spent before great results were obtained, an example of what can be done when hope and optimism are joined in vigorous action. The Government of the Province of Alberta have handled this great resource in a most efficient manner for the good of the people of the Province and of all Canada. I am happy in the knowledge that our 25 branches in the fine Province of Alberta are strategically placed to serve the provincial population and to obtain advantage from this great development. It is interesting to recall that we were the first Bank to open in the capital city, Edmonton, September 1891 and we have now five branches in that city. The iron ore development is of necessity slower, but the possibilities are of world significance.

Our non-ferrous mining industry is prospering and during the year we saw the great Quemont mine brought into production as scheduled—a fine engineering feat under present conditions.

In connection with our gold mining industry I hope that ways and means will be found to accelerate exploration and keep it at a high level. It is of great advantage for us to know what we have, even if under present-day conditions it is not profitable to fully develop it.

It seems to me that considering the geographical situation of Canada, increased population would be a great strength to us. From an internal standpoint it would lessen our dependence on exports by increasing the domestic markets and support and spread our tax burden. Our population of 13 and one half millions, is approximately that of the United States 115 years ago. We have much to offer and since our increased housing is only keeping pace with our increased yearly requirements, apart from our backlog of demand, it would be helpful if we could attract to this country skilled workers in the trades allied to the building industry.

Our attention in the Bank at this time is turned to the past as this is our Seventy-Fifth Anniversary, and if I may make a personal reference I will tell you that I have known all of the six previous General Managers, Mr. Wilkie having been General Manager when I entered in 1904. In 1875 when the Bank opened his title was "Cashier". The capital of the Bank was $500,000; we had one branch and a staff of eight. Mr. Wilkie died in 1914, then being President and General Manager, and your Bank had been built into a sound and flourishing institution of which he was very proud. We owe him much for the good foundation and the tradition of sound banking which he left. In my time in Toronto I have had the privilege of working under Mr. Phipps and Mr. Jaffray, as well as Mr. More, all different personalities but having one thought in common, the welfare of this Bank. I know that you are sorry, as I am, not to have our President with us today and I feel you join with me in the hope for his recovery.

In this new and challenging age it is yearly more difficult to predict very far in advance. We have scars to show of our troubles in the past and I believe we have a better understanding of many things as a result. The immediate present is bright but there are some matters of which a full appraisal is not yet possible, such as the devaluation of Sterling and our own exchange. Notwithstanding these and other uncertainties I feel there is an urge behind business as a whole which will make the coming year an equally good one, but business generally will be wise to continue to operate with care in the matter of strict attention to developments and maintenance of sound and balanced positions.

THE OLDEST
INSURANCE OFFICE
IN THE WORLD

SUN INSURANCE OFFICE Ltd.
FOUNDED 1710
FIRE MARINE CASUALTY

TORONTO
MONTREAL WINNIPEG EDMONTON VANCOUVER

EVERYONE NEEDS THE SUN

Sicks'

SICKS' BREWERIES
LIMITED

Dividend Notice

To the Shareholders,
Sicks' Breweries Limited.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a dividend (No. 82) of twenty-five cents (25c) per share plus a SPECIAL dividend of twenty-five cents (25c) per share on the outstanding capital stock of the Company, has been declared, payable on the 31st day of December, 1949, to shareholders of record at the close of business on the 30th day of November, 1949.

By Order of the Board,
I. N. WILSON,
Comptroller.

CALGARY, Alberta,
November 10th, 1949.

SATURDAY NIGHT
Business Front

Canadian Forest Industries Could Increase Their Output

Government and Industry Call For Revised Forest Policy Before It's Too Late

by Gordon McCaffrey

NOBODY DISPUTES the value of the forests to the national economy. In 1946, 2,793 million cubic feet of forest products (8.0 per cent of the world total) realized a gross value of 1½ billion dollars; 151,497 workers in lumbering, pulp and paper and wood-using industries were paid over 500 million dollars in wages and salaries.

These overwhelming statistics mean that the forests are Big Business. In fact, they contribute more to the Canadian standard of living than any other natural resource.

But they do not tell another story: one of shocking waste and abuse. They do not tell that within the industry there is not the cooperation that the public should expect from the custodians of our greatest source of wealth. The story is much the same in all the forest provinces of Canada, but two recent announcements call special attention to Ontario.

First, there was the statement of D. W. Ambridge, President of Abitibi Power and Paper Company, to a group of financial and investment executives last month. He said: "There are no more desirable, accessible forest areas remaining for license to prospective newsprint mill builders." In other words, under the present methods of utilization, expansion in the industry has reached a peak, and at best will level off at the present record volume of production.

Secondly, there was the statement, by E. E. Johnson, President of the Great Lakes Lumber Company, that his mill at Fort William, Ont., the largest in Canada east of the Rockies, will be forced to shut down for lack of raw material. It is one of many which have already closed, or are threatened with going out of business in Ontario.

The symptoms of the imbalance in the industry have been apparent for some time. In 1947, Maj.-Gen. Howard Kennedy published a thorough and penetrating report on the forest resources of the Province "and their conservation, management, development and beneficial utilization."

He found that the history of the forest operations, with few exceptions, has been one of "cut out and get out", with no regard for perpetual yield. He blamed "public apathy, selfish individuals and sometimes political expediency" as having a share in delaying rational utilization. He made a number of radical recommendations that called for drastic revisions in forest policy.

Report Pigeonholed

As with most Royal Commissions, the report was highly regarded but gingerly handled. Political leaders of every party and industry executives still speak with respect when they refer to the Kennedy Report, but some are more than pleased that it is gathering dust in the customary pigeonhole.

The friction within the industry that has been increasing since the end of the war culminated in a fiery exchange of open letters published in the Lakehead daily newspapers in August and September.

The controversy flared up when Johnson announced he would have to close his mill unless the Government and the paper companies came to his assistance with a supply of sawlogs. (He has recently laid off one shift of millhands, and has sold six of thirteen tugs.) He charged that concessions of timberlands by the Ontario Government to pulp and paper companies have been so extensive "they now have a virtual monopoly of forest wealth, controlling over 76 per cent of occupied Crown lands in the whole Province and 95 per cent of the accessible forests in north-western Ontario."

He reminded the Department of Lands and Forests that Great Lakes Lumber was established with the assurance from Premier Hepburn that the Government was prepared to guarantee a supply of raw material in perpetuity with rates fixed on a competitive basis. He referred to the proposal of George Drew, before he became Premier, for setting up a Forest Resources Commission along the lines of the Hydro. To quote Johnson: "Nothing has been done."

Hon. W. Earl Rowe, President of The Great Lakes Paper Company, assured his employees that the "long range plans and practices of the pulp and paper companies are under constant supervision by the Lands and Forests Department, and no cutting operation is allowed until first approved by the Department."

He said that under the wartime contract between his company and Great Lakes Lumber, he had delivered at a loss almost two million logs. Now that the agreement has expired, Great Lakes Paper has no obligation to supply Great Lakes Lumber, but will sell logs at cost. Johnson has refused such an offer for sawlogs encountered during the Paper Company operations this winter, Rowe contended.

—Gordon McCaffrey

"SQUEEZED OUT *by a monopoly*."

D. W. Ambridge said the reason for the shut-downs in the sawmills was that the lumber companies were "trying to operate in a district which does not grow big enough trees to supply them. The principal sawmills in Canada which can and do produce economically are all in districts where enough big trees are available."

The Kennedy report, on the other hand, stated that lumbering was possible and desirable on a larger scale in Ontario. "Too many of Ontario's sawlogs are located on pulpwood concessions. If the lumber industry is to continue to exist, these logs must be diverted to it, instead of being converted to pulp and paper for which smaller logs serve equally well."

In an interview with SATURDAY NIGHT last week, Kennedy said his Report was written "with the area between Sudbury and the Manitoba border in mind." He is convinced that the lumbering output at the Lakehead could be doubled, and that if the sawmills could get the big logs that the paper mills are splitting or chipping for pulp, prices of lumber would be lower and quality would be higher.

Kennedy suggested that to a large extent the sawmill operators were largely to blame for the desperate situation in which they now find themselves. According to the Commission report, not more than two or

hree per cent of the 1,147 licensed awmills had sufficient limits to permit sustained operations at their 1946 utput. They have always operated n a shoe-string and neglected to rovide themselves with limits while hey were available.

Ontario is importing up to 150 illion feet of lumber a year more han she exports, in spite of the fact hat the Province has two-fifths of ll the accessible saw-timber east of he Rockies. In other parts of the ountry, pulp and paper and lumber ndustries have both increased in olume of production, without apparently greater damage to the forest, ut in Ontario lumbering has been acrificed to pulp and paper.

Still a Weakness

That conversion of the raw material to the finished product is still basic weakness of the industry is uggested by another statement of mbridge. Referring to the alleged great monopoly in the north country", he said Abitibi, for one, was usily engaged in "finding out just ow much wood we have got. If we ind we have more than we need, here is nothing that will stop us from etting some of it go. It costs us oney to keep these limits."

Relinquishing a portion of a company's limits is not in itself the complete and proper solution. For instance, the proportions of standing imber in most of Northern Ontario re on the average, spruce 63 per cent, ack pine 28 per cent and balsam 9 er cent. The proportions of pulpwood ut are spruce 82 per cent, jack pine 2 per cent and balsam 6 per cent.

It isn't difficult to reach these lternative conclusions:

(1) at the present rate of exploitation he spruce (the most valuable pulp ood) will be depleted; or

(2) the pulp and paper companies ave more limits than they require nder conditions of modern, scientific forestry.

The situation has not changed much or the better. The most striking mpression made on the Kennedy ommission was "the tremendous, lmost incredible waste resulting from ingle-purpose operations." Few sawog operators produce pulpwood in the tands they cut over, and few pulpwood operators cut sawlogs, except or their own use. An astonishing eature is that the licenses of many perators prevent them from all-purpose cutting.

In the other provinces, similar waste has been reported. The Sloan Commission (1946) estimated the nnual logging waste at 750 million board feet in British Columbia. Studies in the Maritimes sawmills indicate that sawdust, slabs, edging nd rim waste are about 50 per cent of the log volume.

For the whole country it is estimated that 20 per cent (500 million cubic feet) of the total wood volume of logged areas is left in the woods as waste, and that 45 per cent of the wood processed becomes sawdust, slabs edging and trim waste.

Commenting on last summer's controversy in the Thunderbay district over the supplies of sawlog timber

IMPERIAL BANK OF CANADA

75th ANNUAL STATEMENT

Year ending 31st October, 1949

CAPITAL $7,000,000 RESERVE $10,000,000

YOURS FOR SECURITY

ASSETS

Deposits with and Notes of Bank of Canada	$ 49,326,930.12
Notes of and Cheques on Other Banks	24,207,063.44
Other Cash and Deposits	9,182,411.94
Government and Municipal Securities (not exceeding market value)	213,526,555.96
Other Bonds and Stocks (not exceeding market value)	14,485,675.31
Call Loans (secured)	6,070,783.76
TOTAL QUICK ASSETS	$316,799,420.53
Commercial and Other Loans (after provision for bad and doubtful debts)	187,107,243.36
Liabilities of Customers under Acceptances and Letters of Credit (as per contra)	8,662,762.90
Bank Premises	6,372,376.56
Other Assets	98,766.23
	$519,040,569.58

LIABILITIES

Deposits	$490,510,614.05
Notes in Circulation	703,137.50
Acceptances and Letters of Credit Outstanding	8,662,762.90
Other Liabilities	160,832.33
TOTAL LIABILITIES TO THE PUBLIC	$500,037,346.78
Dividends due Shareholders	212,188.88
Capital, Reserve and Undivided Profits	18,791,033.92
	$519,040,569.58

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

Profits for the year ended 31st October, 1949, after contributions to Staff Pension Fund and after making appropriations to Contingency Reserves out of which full provision for bad and doubtful debts has been made	$ 2,110,075.15
Provision for depreciation of Bank Premises, Furniture and Equipment	315,820.07
	$ 1,794,255.08
Provision for Dominion and Provincial Taxes	679,000.00
	$ 1,115,255.08
Dividends at the rate of $1.20 per share	840,000.00
Balance of Profits carried forward	$ 275,255.08
Profit and Loss Balance 30th October, 1948	1,515,778.84
Profit and Loss Balance 31st October, 1949	$ 1,791,033.92

RESERVE FUND

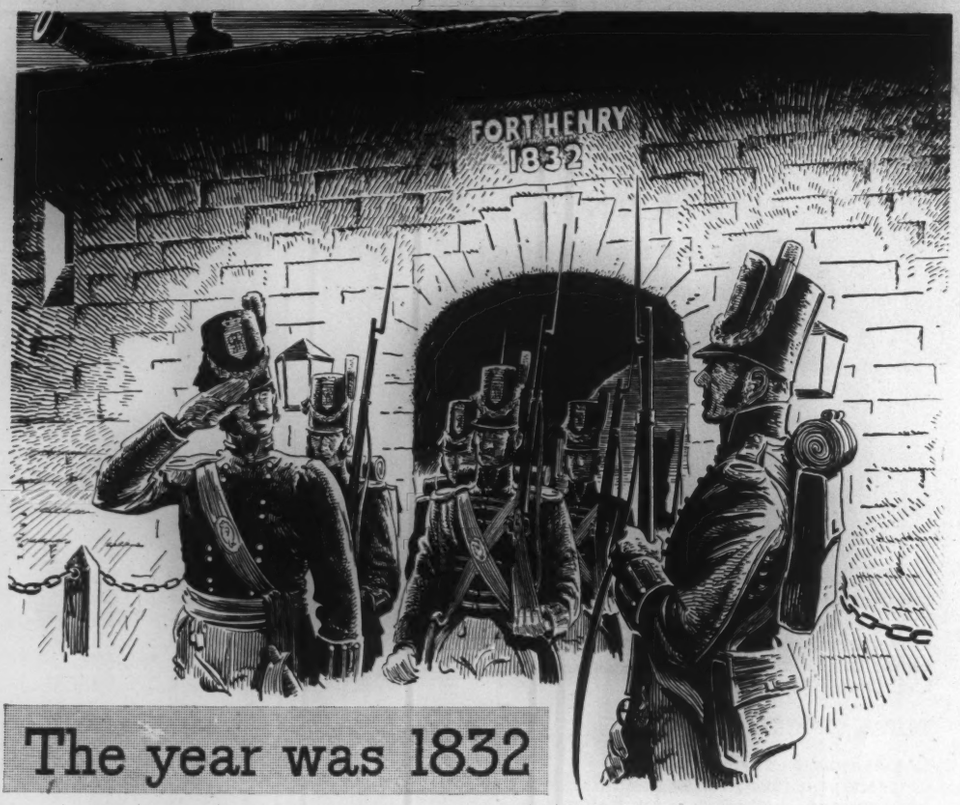
Balance at credit of account 31st October, 1949	$ 10,000,000.00

R. S. WALDIE,
Chairman of the Board

W. G. MORE,
President

I. K. JOHNSTON,
General Manager

A complete Banking Service is available through our Canadian Branches and Foreign Agents throughout the world.



The year was 1832

. . . Canadians, with the war of 1812 fresh in their minds, built a grim fortress on the St. Lawrence, near Kingston. Its name: Fort Henry. Its avowed purpose; to "keep out the Yankees."

But never a shot was fired from Fort Henry. Its limestone walls crumbled into ruin . . . until a century later, when it was restored as an historic site where thousands of "Yankees" are welcomed as friendly visitors, every year.

Fort Henry is fort in name only because two great nations live side by side, in peace, in friendship, in mutual help.

Can it be coincidence that both these nations are ruled by the will of the majority?

Between nations where the people speak freely, peace will be maintained. So Fort Henry is an historic reminder that . . .

When YOU cast your secret ballot at every election—municipal, provincial, federal—you exercise a duty and privilege planned, worked and fought for by your forefathers. Your vote protects the future of your children. To fail in this duty is to be less than a good citizen.

PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF GOOD CITIZENSHIP BY

Gooderham & Worts
LIMITED
Canada's Oldest Distillery
ESTABLISHED 1832

N-42

Waterfront of the Town of York (now Toronto) in 1832
Gooderham & Worts Mill in foreground

to lumber companies, one paper company executive said "Reduce this man (Johnson) to his right size. Don't stir that trouble up again, because it's a local situation that doesn't involve the whole industry."

Local as it may be, the fight being waged for supplies of raw material is important for at least two reasons: (1) The closing of the largest sawmill east of the Rockies, and a number of smaller ones, is a symptom of the crisis anticipated by Kennedy: that within 25 years the lumber industry may be reduced to insignificance in the Province.

(2) If the existing big lumber mills can operate profitably on sawlogs cut from pulp and paper limits, it will prove to the industry and the Government that more diversified utilization of the forests is possible and desirable.

The Provincial Governments have recognized the necessity for scientific forest management. To date the great handicaps have been lack of knowledge and lack of trained foresters. These deficiencies are being eliminated as quickly as possible.

—Gordon McCaffrey

"NO MORE *desirable forest areas.*"

Acting upon the reports of the various investigating commissions, the Governments are taking forest inventories by aerial survey, which will provide an intimate classification of the species.

As a result of DVA assistance, the number of graduate foresters in Canada has doubled. In forestry-conscious New Brunswick, registration of forestry students was 400 in 1947 as compared to 60 in 1939. Graduation classes in Forestry at Toronto have increased from 10 in 1939 to 90 in 1949.

Now the interest in forestry is being carried to the national sphere. The Canadian Forestry Association is pressing for a forestry congress next year. The House of Commons has launched a measure known as Bill 62 (The Canada Forestry Act), which will enable the Federal Government to assist the provinces in forest protection and development.

None of these developments come too soon. If they are successful, we shall be able to write a new chapter in forestry, following one that tells of waste and abuse of shocking proportions.

NORANDA MINES, LIMITED

DIVIDEND NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that an interim Dividend of One Dollar ($1.00) per share, Canadian funds, has been declared by the Directors of Noranda Mines, Limited payable December 15th, to shareholders of record at the close of business November 23rd, 1949.

By Order of the Board
J. R. Bradfield,
Secretary.

Toronto, Ontario,
November 11th, 1949.

LOYAL PROTECTIVE LIFE
PERSONAL PROTECTION
1895
TORONTO

Non-Cancellable, Guaranteed Renewable Sickness and Accident Protection

•

Participating Life Insurance Issued from Birth to Age 65

Wm. Skelton
Resident Vice President
Toronto, Ontario

W. R. Fisher, C.L.U.
General Agent
Vancouver, B.C.

LOYAL PROTECTIVE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Man in a Hurry

Drug Wholesale President
Likes Bass Fishing
Whenever He Has Time

by M. W. Bowman

THE president and general manager of Sterling Drug (Canadian) Ltd., is Henry L. Schade, an executive who never walks where he can run. In conference, or trotting energetically about the plant, he constantly exhorts one and all, "Come on. Let's go!" So effective are his exhortations that last year Sterling shipped 29 million packages of assorted pharmaceuticals and toiletries all over Canada. (Sterling, U.S.A., is the world's largest drug house.)

Most consistent recipient of his exhortation is Miss Ball, his secretary for twenty years who, like all other plant personnel, is genuinely fond of her free-wheeling, small-statured president.

"He can't wait until I have all the letters finished before he signs them", she said. "He has to have each one as it is done". Schade finishes all correspondence before leaving for lunch.

Schade not only wrings a lot out of each minute, but has worked an inordinate number of them. Sterling has been adding new lines which had to be weaved into the warp and woof of the company. Schade was the master weaver. Consequently, he has taken no vacations lately, a fact which has

—M. W. Bowman

HENRY SCHADE

caused him, an ardent sportsman, certain anguish.

He does not particularly miss Gaspé salmon fishing because, as fast as the salmon bit, he claims, the black flies bit even faster. But he does miss his two weeks' Northern Ontario trout and bass fishing, especially the bass. He loves them because "they give you action. They bite faster", he said.

Despite his loss of vacations all closest to him agree that as long as he has Sterling, Schade will not suffer unduly—they are indivisible. This year Sterling celebrates its thirtieth anniversary in Canada, and Schade celebrates his thirtieth anniversary as an employee.

Although intensely preoccupied with Sterling's affairs, Schade is neither deskbound physically or mentally. He makes frequent cross-country trips which satisfy both his cultural yearnings and his natural business curiosity. Recently he lingered amid Alberta's oil fields, assessing future market possibilities. It is said that soon Sterling and Albertans are going to become more closely acquainted.

Schade's hurry is the manifestation of an intense, obstacle-jumping intelligence. Ernie Gater, advertising manager, said, "He analyzes a problem from sixteen angles at one time, then renders decisions like lightning so he can come to grips immediately with another problem".

Snap Decisions

Schade's intenseness is spiced with hard-headed daring. This is well illustrated in the case of the half-hour, French language, one-night-per-week "package" radio program which was dropped by the American company. The CBC at 4:30 pm asked the Canadian company if they wanted to pick it up. The CBC wanted an answer the same day.

Where ordinarily one would think two or three weeks before assuming a $10,000 obligation, Schade wired the CBC twenty minutes later: "Yes, we'll take it". He told his six vice-presidents, "You iron out the details". Detail is their job and Schade does not interfere.

Analytical, decisive, Schade wants action from others. He can forgive the person making a mistake. He cannot forgive the man who never starts.

Now fifty-three, he came to this country from Newark, New Jersey, with his parents at the age of five. His father was a worker and he asked that his two boys work too. Schade clerked in a Montreal drugstore and later worked in the head office of National Drug & Chemical Company as a clerk. In between he took a night school course in chemistry. He played hockey, skied, and otherwise enjoyed himself the one day in fourteen he managed to get off.

In 1919 Sterling decided they wanted Schade and Schade decided he wanted Sterling. He started in as Office Manager when Canadian Sterling had a total staff, office and plant, of five persons. In 1923 he was made General Manager and from this point the company grew like a mushroom. Schade is a Canadian by naturalization.

Although he is a home lover, Schade often gets lost. This occurs every night he goes down to the corner drugstore for his newspaper. He ensconces himself in the druggist's dispensary and talks shop by the hour. He is inherently friendly, and it is said that "Strangers to Schade are only friends he has never met".

Schade has one baffling but amusing quirk. Upon departing from anyone he admonishes in his quick, precise voice, "Take it easy". People find this incongruous because it is always tossed back over his shoulder as he bustles away at top speed.

business angle

Britain Has Goods We Need

London.

FOR THREE weeks we six Canadian editors touring Britain have been up and down this island, inspecting Britain's industries, talking to the men who run them and to labor union leaders and to Government men, having speeches made at us and making some ourselves, and taking part in round-table discussions. It's been hard work because we've done so much, but we've learned a lot—especially that there are more angles than we had thought in this business of increasing the flow of trade between Britain and Canada.

It had looked simple enough, since both countries stand to gain importantly by enlarging the mutual trade flow. Broadly, the position is that Canada is threatened with unmarketable surpluses and unemployment because Britain, short of dollars, is having to cut off purchases of Canadian food and raw materials for industry. Canada wants payment in U.S. dollars so that she can pay for essential imports, largely capital goods, from the United States. The obvious answer is to switch our capital goods buying, so far as possible, from the U.S. to Britain. In effect we would trade food and raw materials for capital goods; both we and Britain would be relieved of the necessity of paying out U.S. dollars. We would be aiding Britain's economic recovery and thus her re-establishment as a full market for our products; since our own production of capital goods falls far short of meeting our own requirements, British capital goods imports would not displace our own products. It's a nice picture.

Not So Old-fashioned

Most that we editors learned on this trip is strongly encouraging. We learned that Britain is far from being the bumbling, old-fashioned, inefficient producer that most North Americans have thought. British manufacturers know their job as well as those of any country — better, probably, than most. They have "know-how" accumulated over many long years. The big engineering firms, with which we were most concerned, go in heavily for research and are constantly extending that branch of operations. Their designers are as smart as any. They are rapidly replacing worn or outdated equipment and the Government is aiding them in this respect with taxation, depreciation allowances and priorities.

Relations between British management and labor are also much better, on the average, than we had thought. Admittedly, we were led around and shown selected industries. But we seized every opportunity to talk to labor men on our own, and the impressions gained from these unofficial contacts didn't differ materially from the others. Generally speaking, British management and labor respect each other and get along well. Several times industrialists spontaneously paid tribute to the capability and loyalty of their workers, when no workers were within hearing distance; workers likewise spoke appreciatively of their employers. Most of the bosses were anti-Labor Government but definitely not anti-labor; they said more than once that the character of the British worker was one of Britain's biggest assets in her current world trade struggle.

Low on Salesmanship

On the not-so-good side, we were inclined to think that many British firms are a bit deficient in salesmanship. Though there are many striking examples to the contrary, such as the sales campaigns of the automobile companies, some British manufacturers still seemed to believe that if they produced high quality goods for a fair price, little more should be necessary; certainly a few of them at least appeared to doubt that it was worthwhile to make extensive changes in their sales methods to suit the Canadian market. However, the Government is educating them on this point.

This brings us to a point commonly overlooked by Canadians, which is that all or almost all British manufacturers, and particularly the producers of capital goods, already have all the business they can do. To sell to Canada instead of to India or Italy or Australia will bring the Government some useful Canadian dollars, but the manufacturer himself will still get pounds. He gains no personal advantage from the switch in markets, to set against what, in many cases, is a positive disadvantage—the interruption of service to customers whom he has been cultivating perhaps for years. This doesn't mean that he isn't willing to do what the Government asks and give Canadian buyers priority, but it does mean that he isn't as enthusiastic as he might be in some cases.

by P. M. Richards

Government
and
Corporation
Securities

Enquiries Invited

•

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Canadian business

THE ECONOMY

THE CONTROVERSY in Ottawa over the participation of Canadian industry in the development of atomic energy for peace-time purposes came as a bit of a surprise to many Canadians. They had accepted the fact that anything to do with the atom was pretty much hush-hush. Mr. Gordon Graydon's claim in Ottawa that U.S. industry was getting all the breaks at the beginning of the atomic era, and External Affairs Minister L. B. Pearson's assurance that information was just as available to Canadian industry as it was to U.S. and British prompted some questions.

The matter was important. If atomic energy is going to be a big factor in the industry of the near future, it is important to growing Canadian industry that potential competitors in the U.S. do not get a head start.

Atomic research in Canada is centered up in Chalk River, with Canadian universities pitching in. Participation in research in Canada, then, is pretty much a Government show.

Radio-active isotopes developed at Chalk River are sold to Canadian industry and agriculture, but it's dangerous stuff to handle, and the sales consequently are restricted. That seems to be about as close as Canadian industry gets to the new developments.

In the U.S., on the other hand, American firms—General Electric, for instance—are participating in the research, and making a real contribution. This was the crux of Dr. C. J. Mackenzie's statement that it was a "tragedy" that Canadian industry could not make its contribution.

Mr. Graydon's objection centered on the danger of U.S. industry stealing a march on Canadian industry by acquiring the "know-how" early. This did not make Mr. Pearson's assurance that atomic information was equally available to Canadian and U.S. industry very helpful. It was one thing to have the information available, but quite another to have actually been in on the ground floor in the development of that information.

AGRICULTURE

Why The Surprise?

CANADIAN agriculture was disgruntled over the threat of a curtailment in U.K. food purchases from Canada. What was particularly surprising was that Sir Stafford Cripps's announcement came as a surprise. It should have seemed almost inevitable in spite of assurances from "official sources" to the contrary.

Canadians seemed to have forgotten that sterling devaluation sought to meet the dollar problem not only by lowering prices of British goods in Canada, and hence increasing sales, but also by raising the price of Canadian goods in Britain and hence decreasing imports.

Dairy products were the first to feel the pinch because the British had an alternative source of supply, and also because they had a good excuse for turning to it. Britain traditionally was Denmark's number 1 customer for these products.

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U.S. business

GRADUAL DOWNTURN

BUSINESS prospects in United States hold no threat of a depression but they offer no promise of a boom. A mild recession in business has been forecast by three important groups who seldom go wrong in their predictions.

Washington's Bureau of Agricultural Economics believes that the "gradual downturn in economic activity will continue through 1950, with a drop in employment and a slow decline in prices." This view is in accord with that of a majority of 108 leading economists who expect a moderate decline in business between now and mid-1950. And a group of bankers who exchanged notes at a recent banking convention found business sentiment still cautious but saw no signs of a slump ahead.

BASIC CROPS SURPLUS

THE Government believes that 1950 will be another year of large agricultural production and has warned farmers to expect drastic production controls on the basic crops of corn, wheat, rice, cotton and tobacco. This

—Miller

COTTON: *Less output by order?*

long-range forecast was made by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics which holds a premier position among the economic soothsayers within and without the Government.

The Bureau is confident of another year of fairly high demand for most farm products but it noted that the downtrend in farm prices and income under way in 1949 is likely to continue next year. Prices received by farmers, according to the BAE, may average 10 per cent below this year. The time is at hand when farmers must accept rigid Government production controls on basic crops if surplus piled on surplus is to be avoided. Acreage allotments—aimed at cutting production by telling producers how many acres they can plant to certain crops — already have been declared for wheat and cotton. Marketing quotas — limiting the supplies of a crop which actually can be sold—have been proposed for cotton. Allotments and quotas also are likely for corn and rice. The rigid control system never has been imposed on corn.

As for exports of U.S. farm products, the BAE foresaw "no marked weakening" in 1950.

STOCK MART STRONG

THE stock market has been moving up in recent weeks to a three-year high point in the face of serious industrial strikes and expectations in many quarters of further business recession next year.

This advance may point to a change in investor psychology. Lack of faith in the future stability of dividend yields has deterred many investors from buying common stocks in recent years. There are more and more present-day investors who were too young in the thirties to have actually experienced losses. Moreover, the belief is gaining that Government intervention through deficit spending makes another major depression unlikely in the foreseeable future.

Stock brokers point out that the market is in about the same position today as it was two years ago when a Federal Reserve official said the stock market was the one healthy spot in the inflation-peppered economic picture. In the face of high current earnings, increased book values and large yields, stocks seem low to many observers in comparison with funds available for investment. There is no dollar shortage among the American public. Large cash assets could be readily used for the purchase of securities should their owners so desire.

Diversified Investment Through Municipal Bonds

Canadian Municipal securities provide opportunities to invest in all parts of Canada. The following list returns yields from 3.09% to 4.50%. We offer as principals—

Security	Rate %	Maturity	Price*	Yield %
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Town of Parry Sound, Ont.	3½	1950-59	102.05	3.10
Town of Goderich, Ont.	3¼	1960-65	100.00	3.25
Town of Bedford, P.Q.	3	1963	97.25	3.25
Township of Kingston, Ont.	3½	1960-68	101.78	3.35
Catholic School Comm. of Town of Mount Royal, P.Q.	3½	1960-69	100.00	3.50
Town of New Liskeard, Ont.	3½	1957-64	99.53	3.55
District of Coquitlam, B.C.	4	1960-69	101.41	3.87
Township of Scarboro, Ont.	3¾	1965	100.00	3.75
City of Port Alberni, B.C.	3	1950-68	90.49	4.25
Moosomin School District No. 12, Sask.	4½	1950-79	100.00	4.50

*Prices quoted "and accrued interest"

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U.K. business

SUPPORTING A DEFICIT

IT HAPPENED that in the same week when President Truman signed the new bill to support American farm prices, Sir John Hay, noted authority on rubber, addressed the Overseas League in London on the problem of paying for high-priced American commodities.

Sir John did not talk in abstractions about the terms of trade: he gave some concrete examples of the deterioration of the terms of trade, as applying to the Sterling Area's principal dollar-earning export, rubber. Here are some examples.

Three times as much rubber has to be exported now to get the same quantity of American cotton as in 1939. In that year a hundredweight of rubber paid for 28 bushels of wheat; now it pays for only 8. The figures for maize are 41 bushels in 1939, 15½ now. In 1939 a pound of rubber bought 2⅜ pounds of lard; now it buys only 1 1/16 pounds. A pound of rubber then equalled 14½ ounces of tobacco; now it equals only 6½ ounces.

"This distortion of relative values," said Sir John, "is not due to the free play of supply and demand: it is the outcome of American trade policy." On the one hand, he pointed out, there was an enforced restriction on the use of natural rubber in favor of the synthetic product; on the other, there was the maintenance, through Government support, of domestic farm products at a high level of prices.

It may be argued that rubber is a special case. But discrimination in

—Miller

RESTRICTED *use in the United States of natural rubber, and . . .*

favor of home-produced goods applies to many items other than rubber, in America as in other countries.

Even if rubber were a special case it would be one worth quoting, for in 1948 it accounted for nearly $200 million of Malaya's $270 million earnings, and Malaya ranked first among the ten main dollar-earners of the Commonwealth—even though it did not make up an overwhelming proportion of the $1,356 million total Sterling Area exports to the U.S.A. last year.

The devaluation of sterling last September has greatly aggravated the problem by lowering dollar prices of sterling commodities and raising sterling prices of dollar commodities. If the British Government did not realize beforehand how serious would be the effect of the change, it was certainly not for want of warning by financial experts—including, when it seemed to him opportune, Sir Stafford Cripps himself.

It is a moot point, anyway, whether Britain or America must bear the main responsibility for devaluation,

—Wheeler

. . . favoring of the synthetic product has reduced dollar earnings to growers.

and so, for any miscalculations that may have been made regarding its effect on the dollar gap.

As to those miscalculations, the authority quoted above has estimated a loss of some $40 million a year on the Sterling Area's dollar-earnings from rubber alone as a result of the cheapening of the U.S. price by devaluation of sterling.

Sir Stafford Cripps has not been able since September 18 to counter the argument which he himself had previously put forward, that devaluation would raise the cost of imports and lower the value of exports for the Sterling Area. It is an unfortunate fact which has now to be accepted. But there is a strengthening demand that something shall be done about the artificial manipulation of U.S. commodity prices.

Farm Support

Specifically, the farm support policy has come up for criticism in the importing countries. If they are unwilling to pay artificial prices for, say, Russian wheat or Egyptian cotton they push up the non-dollar prices.

The problem is admittedly awkward for the American Government. A slump in agriculture is, it seems, politically unthinkable. But the burdensome character of the support program becomes more and more difficult to disguise, as generous prices stimulate production, no matter what efforts may be made to restrict it.

And it is obviously anomalous that assistance has to be given through ECA to foreign countries whose dollar shortage is aggravated by artificially high U.S. prices.

In the long run, the problem may solve itself, so far as the foreign buyers are concerned, by stimulation of production of farm products in the non-dollar world. But such a solution, leaving still larger surpluses for the American Administration to care for, would increase the disparity between the dollar and the non-dollar areas, would introduce in an exaggerated form the paradox of undistributable plenty in a world whose basic wants, even, cannot be satisfied.

business briefs

■ **Purity Flour Mills Ltd.** reports a drop in earnings in the fiscal year ended July 31, 1949. Net profits dropped from $633,507 last year to $405,889 this year. The report blames the unsettled conditions in world trade for the decline, and does not look for much improvement in the future. The difficulties of currency exchange and the operations of the ERP have eliminated or restricted the sale of Canadian flour in many long-established markets.

■ For November this year Canadian **dividend payments** totalling $8,252,952 are considerably below the $13,286,279 figure for November, 1948. The smaller payments this month reflect the change in dividend dates by two large companies—Ford of Canada and International Petroleum. Both companies are making their payments in December this year, whereas last year they made them in November.

■ The number of operating **oil wells** in Alberta climbed to 996 in the final week of October, which compared with 986 in the previous week. Of the new wells, six were at Redwater, and four at Leduc. Output of crude oil and natural gas in the Province in the last week averaged 63,170 barrels a day, a gain of 3,090 barrels over the third week in October.

■ **Federated Petroleums Ltd.** of Calgary have purchased Imperial Oil's entire interest in Foothills Oil and Gas Ltd. and in Lowery Petroleums Ltd.

Imperial's interest in Foothills amounted to 1,181,805 shares, representing 80.8 per cent of the outstanding stock. The sale of Foothills carried with it the controlling interest in Southwest Petroleums, its subsidiary.

new products

■ A British firm is turning out a small scale refrigerator. It's 30 inches wide, 24½ inches deep and 31 inches high. The unit is designed to save space in the kitchen, but the shelf area of 4.5 square feet and a net food storage volume of 2¾ cubic feet indicate you can pack quite a bit into it in spite of its small size.

■ U.S. rubber company has developed a tire that protects its own whitewalls from curb markings. It features a raised edge of rubber around the outer edge of the wall, so your bad judgment in parking won't show up on the white sides of the wall.

SATURDAY NIGHT National Round-up

ALBERTA:

Short Trips Cost Less

IN ITS RESEARCHES into Canadian freight rates for submission to the Royal Commission on Transportation, the Alberta Government produced some odd evidence of the results of low charges ruling between Eastern Canada and the Pacific Coast—which are the result of pre-war competition from Panama Canal freighters.

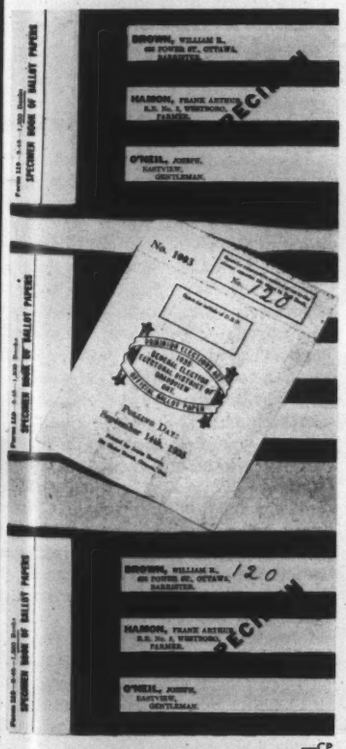
For a great number of goods, the freight is lower between Toronto and Vancouver than between Toronto and Calgary—although the goods shipped to Vancouver by CPR would have to pass through Calgary and travel 1,700 miles farther through the expensive mountain region.

On some goods—canned meats, for example — the Toronto-Vancouver rate is less than half the Toronto-Calgary rate. A builder's supply merchant in Edmonton found that he could not compete in supplying nails to Edson (just over 100 miles west of Edmonton) with Vancouver dealers. Vancouver merchants could buy nails in Toronto, ship them to Vancouver and then ship them back to Edson more than 500 miles over the same CNR track, at less cost than the Edmonton merchant would have to pay for shipping nails from Toronto to Edmonton and sending them on a further 100 miles or so.

In some classes of freight, it costs as much to ship from Toronto to points east of Fort William as it does to ship from Toronto all the way to Vancouver; and at all points between the head of the lakes and the BC coast, the charge is higher than the Toronto-Vancouver figure.

Being the farthest west of the three prairie provinces, Alberta suffers most from this arrangement. Since Eastern manufacturers rarely have to compete with closer sources of supply in selling to Alberta, their custom is to tack freight charges on to the factory price. But when Alberta itself is shipping primary products to the Eastern markets, the exact reverse applies. Generally speaking, it must compete in these markets with Saskatchewan and Manitoba; and Alberta producers therefore have to absorb the freight charges themselves or lose the business to their competitors farther east.

The Alberta Government argues that this constitutes unfair discrimination. It is asking the Commission to recommend that freight rates should be roughly the same, on a ton-mile basis, throughout Canada, and that where competition makes special arrangements necessary — as on the transcontinental run—the cost of shipping for a greater distance should in no case be less than the cost of shipping for a shorter distance over the same route.



—CP

BALLOT MYSTERY: *In June federal election Regina poll clerks' entries of voters' numbers on counter-foil were carried by carbon to ballots. A formal probe is proceeding.*

NEW BRUNSWICK:

Shoo Fly, Sawfly

ON HUNDREDS of woodlots, Christmas tree cutting is in full swing. All along the highways there are piles of evergreens, tied tight with cord and looking like umbrellas to conserve shipping space—waiting for trucks to take them to railway sidings. Chief market this year is the U.S. since devaluation has cut into the British market considerably.

In spite of British curtailment, the most carefully selected individual tree goes to Manchester as a gift from Saint John: it is a symbol of 50 years of direct commerce between the two ports. It will be shipped via the SS Manchester Trader when she sails from Saint John Dec. 8, the opening date of the winter service of the Manchester Line of freighters. It will arrive in Manchester Dec. 17 in time to be erected and decorated (with ornaments also shipped by Saint John) in a public square.

Only one cloud looms: years ago exporters attempted to drum up a regular Christmas tree business with Britain but the plans collapsed when it was discovered the U.K. enforced an embargo on Canadian evergreens because of the danger of importing an insect known as the spruce sawfly. If the restriction is still in effect, officialdom will have to blink an eye or the ornaments will hang without the tree.

Dead Right

EVER SINCE the advent of the horseless carriage NB's drivers' licensing procedure has been a farce. All the applicant needed was the signature of a friendly garage mechanic on a slip of paper—plus a $2 bill and the ability to sign his name. As a result, men too paralyzed to get their purses out of their pockets or too blind to tell the difference between a deuce and a fiver were able to obtain licenses.

The province—looking at its last year's total of 98 traffic deaths has decided to do something about it. First step: the appointment of Supt. Norman Anderson, at present commander of the PEI division of the Mounties, as its first highway safety commissioner. His primary job will be to sift out the motoring sheep from the goats.

—CP

PINK OR RED TEA? *The PM talks to Soviet diplomats at recent reception at the Soviet Embassy in Ottawa.*

NEWFOUNDLAND:

Weathervane?

THE RECENT defeat of Mayor Andrew G. Carnell and Deputy Mayor Spratt in the St. John's municipal elections is attributed by Newfoundlanders to their connection with Premier Smallwood. The Mayor declared himself a Liberal early in Smallwood's campaign, while Spratt was one of the Premier's standard bearers in the west end of St. John's. He was elected and now holds the cabinet post of Minister of Provincial Affairs. He decided to contest the municipal office for reelection but ran 11th (the top six are elected).

In the mayorality election, Harry Mews, the defeated PC leader in the first provincial elections and a member of the outgoing Municipal Council, stumped for mayor and was elected over Carnell. The resulting question in the province now is: are the results attributable only to the citizens' desire for a change or an indication of growing opposition to Liberal policies.

—CP

RAILROAD TO PLENTY: *Big plans would run Pacific Great Eastern to untapped wealth of Northern Canada.*

Base For Sale

NEWFOUNDLANDERS are most interested in the recent discussions in Ottawa on the United States bases in the new province. Regardless of the Canadian Government's desire to modify the wonderful set-up obtained by Washington in 1940, it is unlikely that many changes will be made in the 99-year leased base agreement. The military establishments near St. John's, Argentia and on the West Coast at Harmon Field, have brought millions of dollars into Newfoundland and provided a lot of constant employment. Only recently due to economic reasons Uncle Sam decided to make some curtailments and 600 Newfoundland have been or will be paid off soon.

ONTARIO:

It Surprised Its Parents

SOME SAY IT WON an election. It certainly surprised its parents with its lusty growth. But last week, its job done, the Ontario Second Mortgage Plan was interred, quietly and without sorrow.

The plan was one of the master strokes of Mr. Drew when premier. To counteract criticism of inaction on housing he devised it a few months before the general provincial election of 1948. Under it the province, through guarantees, put up half the money to a limit of $1,250 for the down payment on new houses. It took back second mortgages.

First indications were that it was intended as an incidental piece of ammunition. The government men of the day off the public platforms weren't too enthusiastic. But it caught on with the voters and was a potent factor in the Drew victory in that election.

Subsequently it thrived. By the first

All roads lead to friendly

British Columbia

Come west for a warmer winter!

When the rest of the country is cold and chilly take the road to the West Coast . . . where balmy Pacific Ocean Currents make the weather easy-going all year round. Some come for out-door sports . . . some for gentle relaxation . . . others for just plain lazin'. Yes, and they come back again year after year — to enjoy once more the scenic splendour of island studded fjords . . . the friendly temperate climate—Call in at Harrison Hot Springs . . . just eighty miles from Vancouver up the beautiful Fraser Valley . . . This internationally famous spa nestles among mile-high mountains on the shores of a winding, crystal clear mountain lake. In British Columbia you'll find the warm welcome, fine food and excellent accommodation that spell Holiday Happiness.

For full details write B.C. Travel Bureau, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, B.C.

of October of this year more than 10,000 loans had been granted and over $13,000,000 guaranteed.

The new Dominion Housing Act, however, ended its day. The widened loans under the Dominion Act compensated for the extra money Ontario was advancing. The Provincial Government, never too easy about being in the mortgage business, happily got ready to withdraw.

Last week it made the withdrawal. Through a form letter quietly sent out to loan companies and builders, it announced no more loans would be granted after Dec. 31.

The total cost of the venture can't be estimated yet. It will depend on the number of defaulters. But so far it hasn't been high. Money was loaned at higher than provincial borrowing rates. The biggest outlay was administration expense, and it wasn't large.

Cooperative Apartments

IF A PROPOSED deal goes through, Windsor will be one of the first Ontario cities to have a cooperative apartment house, in which the apartments are purchased instead of rented.

Local interests have obtained an option to purchase city-owned property on Riverside Drive, waterfront land, for the erection of a $500,000 six-storey building. If 36 apartments can be sold in advance, building will commence. Vancouver, Montreal and Toronto are other cities with occupant-owned apartment houses.

MANITOBA:

Tax-Happy

MR. ABBOTT'S new scheme of grants in lieu of taxes has been received with disappointment here. Winnipeg with more than $7,000,000 worth of federal property within its limits receives nothing because the Ottawa formula applies only where federal property is valued at more than four per cent of the total city assessment. Here, the value of federal lands and buildings represents only some two per cent of the total. Nor has the city accepted with good grace the vagueness of Mr. Abbott's statement in regard to Government commercial or semi-commercial undertakings such as the Canadian Wheat board and the CBC.

Negotiations in regard to this type of federal property are to be left to the individual corporation and the local government which in fact will not be negotiations at all since what the corporation pays will be what it wants to pay and not what a taxing authority may think it should pay.

—Thomas in the Vancouver Daily Province

"TIMES ARE DIFFERENT, DAD!"

—Arch Dale in the Winnipeg Free Press

SANTA'S FIRST GIFT

Altogether relations between the two levels of government in regard to property have not been too happy recently. The city still remembers the Main Street sewer battle. Up to about two years ago, the Dominion was willing to pay sums equal to the local improvements tax without question. Then it was decided such payments were unnecessary. The result was that Ottawa refused to pay the frontage charge for the construction of a sewer past its federal building. The city, after trying vainly to drag some money out of the Government, then said, all right, no pay, no sewer, and left it up to the federal authorities to find a method of ridding the building of its sewage. A week before the deadline the dominion capitulated.

It was a victory but the civic authorities thought a rather unnecessary one. Road improvements in front of a local armory resulted in the same kind of battle but this was settled more amicably. Now under the Abbott scheme payments for local improvements will be made. This at any rate is a step forward.

QUEBEC:

No Dirty Linen

CHARGES made by Det.-Sgt. A. A. Finel of the Montreal Police Force that mental patients were being confined in jails because of lack of accommodation in the city's crowded mental hospitals (SN, Nov. 22) attracted several echoes. First, Recorder Leonce Plante, dean of Montreal's municipal judges, added, "The situation is scandalous. Since when do we treat mental patients as criminals?"

Then another reverberation came from Quebec's Superior Court. Mr. Justice Gerald Fauteux ruled that the practice of having mental cases confined in jail on a vague charge of disturbing the peace is invalid. Henceforth recorders are only authorized to send a person to a mental institution when an indictable offence is involved. Disturbing the peace is not an indictable offence.

But the final echo came from Mr. J. Albert Langlois, MBE, Montreal's Director of Police who disclosed that (1) police matrons and trained nurses rather than policewomen would look after mental cases from now on; (2) the converted station would no longer be used for mental cases; (3) assurance has been received from the Provincial Government that it would soon solve the problem.

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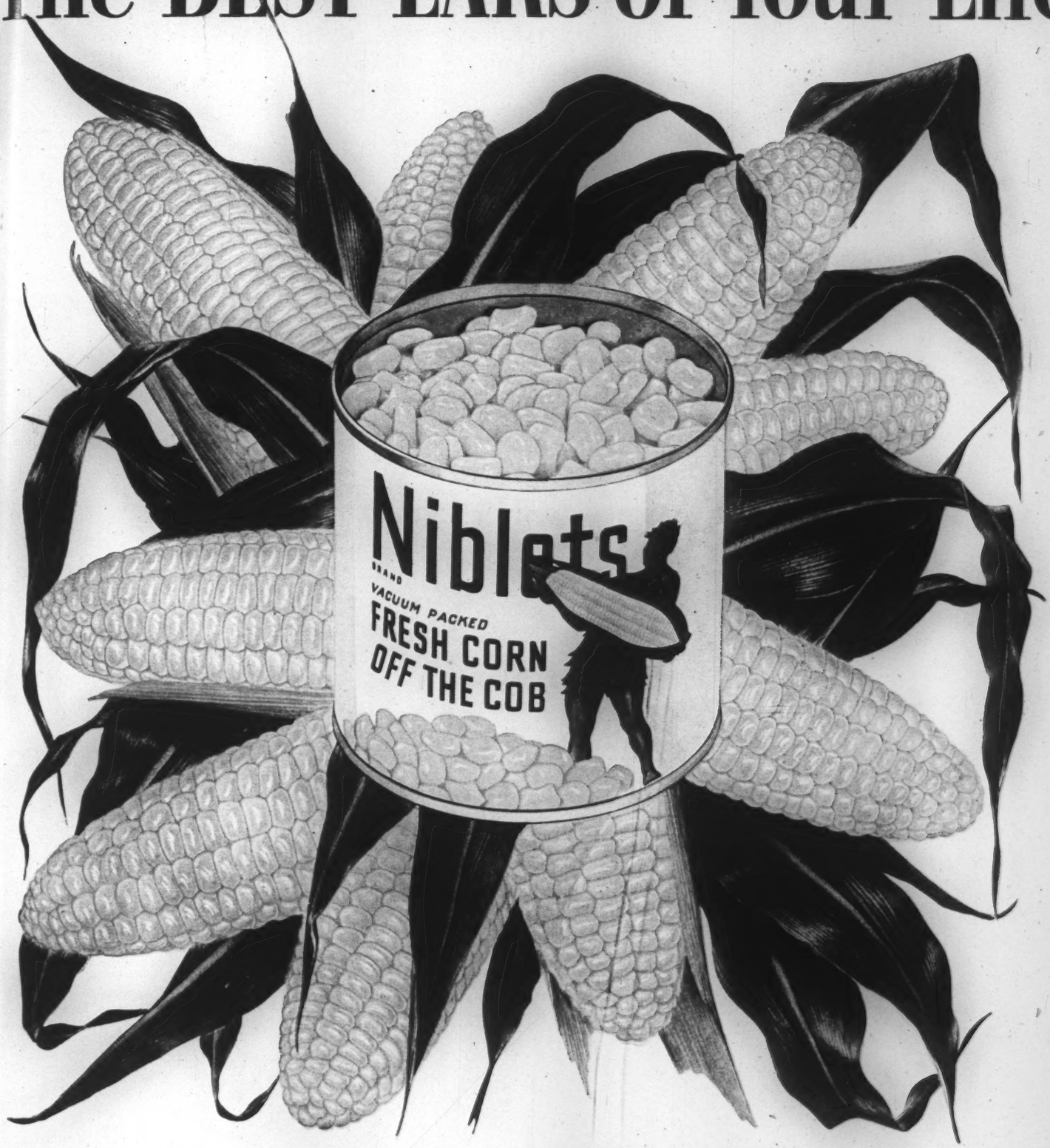

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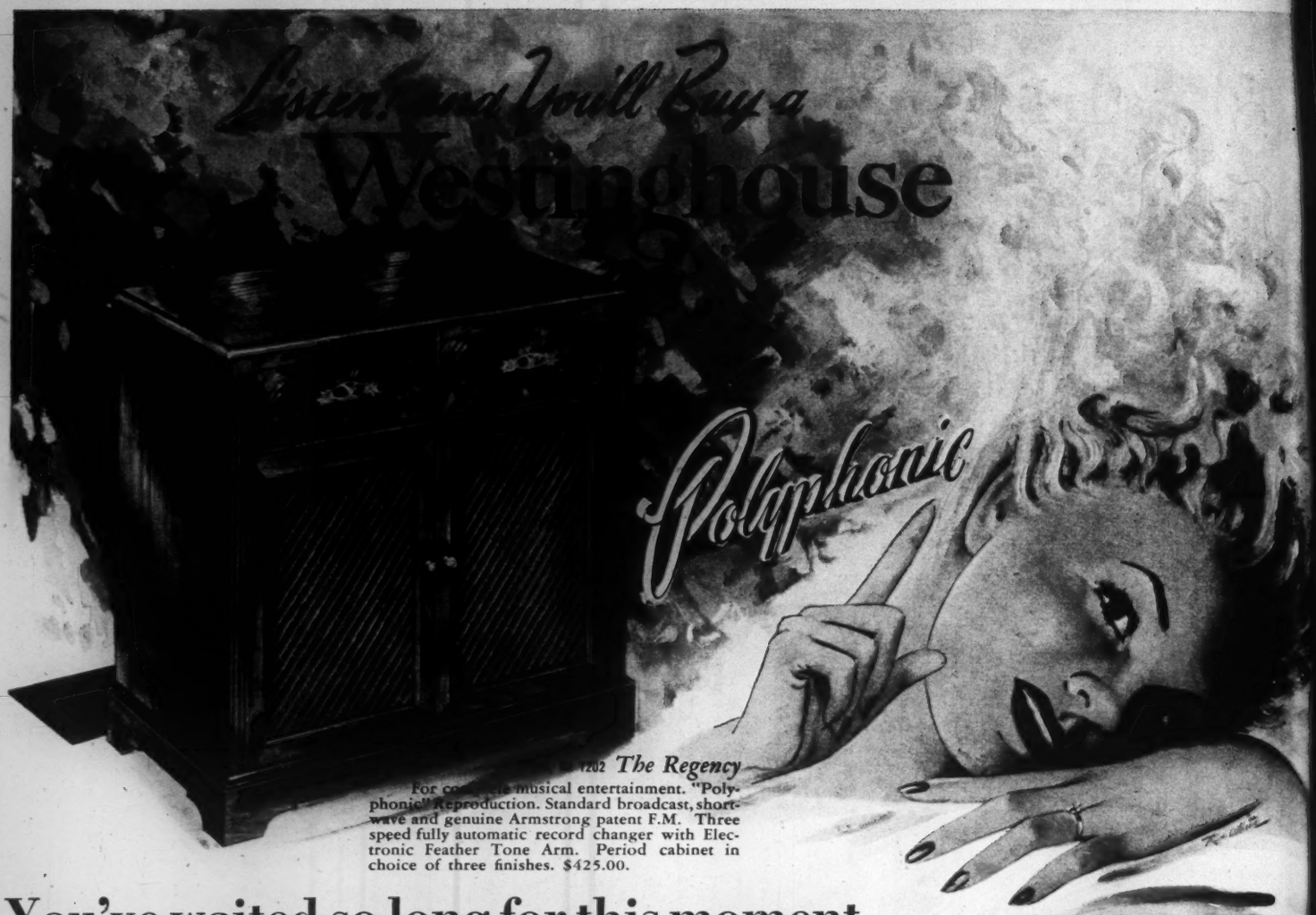

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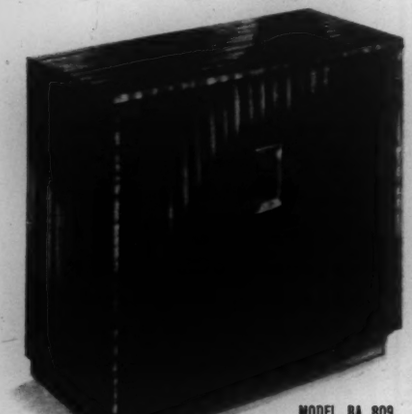

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